

'Several hundred' applications received since January 1

Surge in Soviet 'tourist' requests

By ROBERT ROSENBERG

There has been a dramatic increase in the number of requests reaching Israelis from Soviet citizens asking for invitations for "tourism" trips to Israel, government sources have told *The Jerusalem Post*.

"Several hundred" such tourism-type applications have been made since January 1, and the applications have overshadowed the 50 per cent increase between January and February in Soviet Jewish arrivals in Vienna.

According to the government sources, the numbers of Jews leaving the Soviet Union - 98 in January and 146 in February - are still neither large enough to describe as a trend, nor anywhere close to the Kremlin's announced promise of 500 or more.

But the unprecedented number of requests by Soviet Jewish citizens to Israelis for letters inviting them for short trips to Israel, are being seen here as either an indicator of a growing optimism about Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's intentions for Soviet Jews, or, as one suspicious Russian Jew well-informed about the current climate in the USSR said, a "more logical KGB approach" to decreasing pressure for emigration.

As is the case with emigration applications, there is still a lot of uncertainty here about the Kremlin's intentions regarding the tourism applications.

Since Moscow's new rules and regulations about emigration criteria went into effect on January 1, Israeli observers of the Soviet scene have been carefully watching for signs indicating how Soviet Jews are responding to Gorbachev's campaign for reforms.

In order for Soviet citizens to travel abroad - unless sent by the Soviet government - they must have an invitation from a relative in a foreign country, duly notarized by the authorities in that country. It's on the basis of such "invitations," or "affidavits" that Soviet Jews apply to Ovir, the Soviet emigration authorities, for exit permits.

The new rules and regulations are based on "first-degree relative reunification" and set the criteria for crossing the Soviet border. The criteria cover, in addition to emigration, a whole list of possible "personal" reasons for travelling abroad: meeting relatives, family contracts or marriages, illness, cemetery visits, resolving inheritances, "and other valid reasons."

There have been "many, many more" such

"tourism" requests than there have been emigration requests, said the Israeli government sources. And like emigration requests made since January 1, the evidence about Soviet attitudes towards the "tourism" applications is, at best, ambiguous.

During the past two decades a trickle of Soviet Jewish tourists has reached Israel on tourism visas. In addition to Soviet tourists invited by the Israeli Communist Party, there have been, say Israeli sources, "a few dozen" other non-political tourists. Many of their visas were issued by the Kremlin authorities because of family illnesses or celebrations to people the Kremlin was sure would return, said Soviet Jewish sources here.

But the number of requests for such invitations have never reached the proportions in evidence in the last two months.

The commonly accepted view among Israeli officials and observers who follow the Soviet Jewish emigration movement is that the number of requests by Soviet citizens to foreign relatives for an affidavit or invitation for emigration - or "tourism" - is a direct function of the probability that the subsequent application based on that invitation will be viewed positively by the authorities.

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Rabin to study recommendations

IDF chiefs want to scrap Lavi for F-16

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT

TEL AVIV. - The IDF's general staff has recommended that Israel drop the Lavi programme, acquiring additional F-16Cs instead, and use the remaining funds for other development and procurement projects, very well-placed sources told *The Jerusalem Post*.

The proposals are now being studied by aides to Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who are also completing an examination of the various alternatives presented by the Pentagon's deputy under secretary for planning and resources, Dov

Zakheim. They include proposals for building F-16s here, buying F-15s, Harriers or F-18s.

None of these alternatives is likely to be accepted and the general staff's proposal is that Israel acquire more F-16Cs, the type delivered last month. Those planes, superior to the F-16A and twin seater F-16Bs already in the Israeli Air Force, are to be equipped with Israeli computer systems.

Technically, the letter detailing the general staff's proposal was signed by the Deputy Chief of General Staff Aluf Amir Drori - and a Defence Ministry aide yesterday talked about "Drori's proposal." But it was signed with the generals'

consent, *The Post* was told.

Chief of General Staff Rav-Aluf Moshe Levy is also on record as maintaining there are excellent alternatives to the Lavi.

At a luncheon hosted by the Israel-American Chamber of Commerce here last week, Levy stated that in the strict military sense there are alternatives to the Lavi. "It is not a situation where there is only one military-operational solution."

"There are ready-made very attractive alternatives," he said. However, he also said that a project such as the Lavi helps Israel maintain its qualitative lead over the enemy. "Advanced technology will widen the gap," he said.

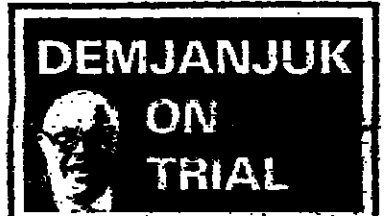
Demjanjuk loses his cool

By ERNIE MEYER

Jerusalem Post Reporter
John Demjanjuk, on trial for his life for allegedly murdering thousands of Jews in the Treblinka death camp, for the first time broke his silence uttering the words, "You are a liar." The words, in Hebrew, were directed at Treblinka survivor, Eliyahu Rosenberg, who was on the witness stand.

Prime Minister Shamir was in the courtroom as Demjanjuk briefly abandoned the aura of pensive silence that has marked his appearance at the trial so far. (Shamir, page 4)

The build-up to this "dramatic moment," as court president Dov Levin later described it, was slow.



Defence attorney Mark O'Connor (right) querying what his client had shouted during his outburst in court yesterday.

Defence counsel Mark O'Connor was continuing the cross-examination of Rosenberg. The witness told about a group of Jews from Grodno who rebelled as they were driven along the *Schlauch* (German for hose), a fenced-in pathway leading to the gas chambers. The naked men pitched themselves against the barbed-wire fence, toppled a section of it and ran about in the Upper Camp, the death camp.

O'Connor: "How were they able to break out of the *Schlauch*?"

Rosenberg: "It wasn't such a problem for people who knew they were going to their death to push the

fence down - they would have pushed down a wall."

O'Connor referred to the rebellion as "heroic" and added, "I just felt that in my heart."

The story then unfolded to its bitter end. Most of the rebelling men were shot inside the camp by the German and Ukrainian guards. About 30, who were captured alive, were destined for a particularly painful and slow death.

In the late afternoon they were locked in one of the small gas cham-

bers. But instead of the usual carbon monoxide being pumped in from the old tank engine serviced by Iván the Terrible, chlorine was poured into the chamber through an opening in the roof. The men took all night to die.

Rosenberg said that in the morning, when he and his comrades were ordered to remove the bodies, "the skin came off in our hands as we pulled the corpses out."

Then O'Connor asked the witness

(Continued on Page 9)

First case of heterosexual Aids in Israel

By JOANNA YEHIEL

Israel has now got its first case of heterosexual transmission of the Aids virus.

The wife of a drug addict living in the North recently tested positive for antibodies of the virus, doctors said. The husband also has the antibodies. She is not an addict herself or a recipient of a blood transfusion - two of the major risk groups for Aids.

Thus, according to the doctors, she was most likely infected through sexual relations with her husband.

Neither of them is sick with Aids, but both are infected - and infectious. This case proves the dangers of the spread of the disease heterosexually in Israel, doctors said.

There are 34 known cases of people in the country who are actually sick with the disease.

Israel Television is tonight showing a programme on Aids on the *Second Look* news magazine.



The Lavi making its maiden flight last January

Soldiers kill teenager in Nablus

By JOEL GREENBERG

NABLUS. - IDF troops yesterday shot and killed a Nablus teenager shot after a memorial service which marked the anniversary of the assassination of the city's late mayor, Zafar al-Masri.

In emotional remarks at al-Masri's tomb, his widow charged that Israel's failure to apprehend the

assassin proved it was responsible for her husband's murder.

Yesterday's shooting occurred when a patrol in the downtown area opened fire on three youths who fled after they were stopped for a routine check. An IDF spokesman said the troops shouted warnings and fired in the air before shooting at the teenagers' legs. However, Palestinian

eyewitnesses said the troops shouted and immediately fired at the youths while pursuing them.

Amjad Fares Faez Yasin, 19, was killed, and Abdel Mu'ti Antar was wounded in the leg and taken to Raffidia Hospital. The third youth escaped, and troops later closed off the area.

(Continued on Back Page)

Rabin gave assurances

Sella's career wouldn't suffer

By WOLF BLITZER

Jerusalem Post Correspondent
WASHINGTON. - In recent weeks, Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin has privately assured associates that Israeli Air Force Colonel Aviam Sella's military career will not suffer as a result of his role in the Jonathan Jay Pollard spy scandal, according to authoritative American and Israeli sources.

But Rabin's reported remarks were made prior to last week's high-level decision by the U.S. government to formally protest plans to promote Sella to Brigadier General and to name him commander of one of Israel's largest air bases. The Americans are hoping that those plans will now be reversed.

U.S. officials in Washington yesterday confirmed that the U.S. Embassy's charge d'affaires in Tel Aviv, Arthur Hughes, met last week with Rabin to express America's very deep concern about Sella's planned promotion. Hughes, who was filling in for Ambassador Thomas Pickering during the latter's stay in Washington, is said to have

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)

Deadlock as hospital strike enters 9th day

By JUDY SIEGEL and ASHER WALLFISH

Jerusalem Post Reporters
The strike by government hospital workers enters its ninth day today with none of the three parties involved - the strikers, the government and the Histadrut - knowing how to end it.

Angry Strikers, Page 4

The Treasury and the strikers are deadlocked over the timing of payment of an increase of NIS 200 per employee. Knesset Labour Committee chairwoman Ora Namir said last night.

She told *The Jerusalem Post* that although they had agreed on an advance payment of NIS 100 per month, against the eventual wage hike expected to be awarded by the Padeh Committee on hospital salaries, the Treasury insisted on paying this sum from March only, and not from January as the strikers were demanding.

Finance Minister Moshe Nissim, meeting yesterday with the four former heads of the strikers' union and

with Histadrut Secretary-General Yisrael Kessar, reiterated that he would not negotiate with the hospital workers as long as they remained off the job, and that he could not offer salary increases that would violate the government wage accord.

At yesterday's Knesset Labour Committee meeting, Health Minister Shoshana Arbeli-Almoslino made such a sharp attack on Nissim that committee members were convinced the two were not on speaking terms. (Nissim was not present at the meeting.) She scored Nissim for giving orders to the hospitals to use sub-contractors without consulting with the Health Ministry.

She also sent a message to Nissim via an aide in which she criticized him on this account, and accused him of "trying to run the country."

By last night Nissim had not replied. Hundreds of the 11,000 strikers are to demonstrate outside Histadrut headquarters in Tel Aviv this morning to protest against the labour federation's "misleading" of the crisis.

Rambam Hospital doctors and nurses will meet this morning to

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)

Jemayel agrees to Syrian plan for Lebanon

BEIRUT (Reuters). - President Amin Jemayel has agreed to three key points contained in a new, Syrian-brokered peace plan aimed at ending 12 years of civil war in Lebanon by giving Moslems a greater share of power, official sources said yesterday.

They told Reuters the Maronite Christian leader had agreed to give up his cabinet veto rights - currently he can veto the cabinet's decisions. Jemayel also agreed that the prime minister - traditionally a Sun-

ni Moslem - would be elected by parliament instead of being appointed by the presidency, the sources said.

Jemayel had also agreed in principle to the abolition of "confessionalism," the traditional power-sharing system between the country's Moslem and Christian communities.

The sources, close to Jemayel, said the three points had been agreed over more than two months of indirect negotiations between Jemayel and Syrian leaders.

They were also contained in the latest Syrian-backed plan drawn up in Damascus by Lebanon's Moslem politicians and militia leaders in talks with top Syrian officials.

Before returning to Beirut last night, Prime Minister Rashid Karame said in the Syrian capital the accord would "lead us out of our impasse."

But the official sources said some proposed reforms still remained to be settled between leaders of Lebanon's warring communities.

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	17.2.87	MIN.	MAX.
AMSTERDAM	-4	25	10
BRUSSELS	0	33	10
BUENOS AIRES	25	77	36
CHICAGO	1	34	7
COPTENHAGEN	4	18	4
FRANKFURT	7	45	11
GENEVA	7	45	11
HELSINKI	15	5	21
HONG KONG	15	59	19
JERUSALEM	16	61	28
LONDON	18	59	24
LONDON	18	59	24
MADRID	4	29	26
MONTREAL	-7	19	-4
NEW YORK	5	37	11
OSLO	-17	1	-19
PARIS	18	59	24
RIO DE JANEIRO	20	68	34
SAO PAULO	19	68	29
STOCKHOLM	-14	7	-18
TOKYO	1	34	9
TORONTO	1	34	9
VIENNA	-7	19	-4
ZURICH	4	29	26

*For the latest weather conditions contact Swissair.

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Haifa: 2 Sina Road 04-334555
Beer Sheva: 38 Ha'aretz St. 057-36262
Cairo: Ben Gurion Airport 03-9712151

THE WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy and rain; in the Negev possibility of floods.

	Yesterday's	Yesterday's	Today's
	Humidity	Min-Max	Humidity
Jerusalem	39	5-13	12
Golan	54	1-13	11
Nahariya	59	2-9	9
Safed	69	8-17	17
Haifa Port	66	5-16	17
Tiberias	60	6-14	14
Nazareth	60	2-17	17
Afula	45	3-14	13
Shomron	45	7-18	17
Tel Aviv	37	5-18	17
B-G Airport	43	5-21	20
Jericho	49	8-16	16
Gaza	49	4-18	16
Beersheba	30	11-22	23
Eilat	30	11-22	23

Soldier's killers

get life sentence

TEL AVIV (Iim). - The two terrorists who in 1985 killed IDF soldier Akiva Shaltiel were sentenced yesterday to life in prison by the Nablus military court.

The chief judge said the two, Abed Shaker, 30, and Al Abi Shaker, 18, deserved the death penalty, but the court could not give a harsher sentence than that demanded by the prosecutor.

The trial of a third man, Ahmad Jabar, was postponed.

Shaltiel was killed on April 6, 1985 when he was hitchhiking from his army base at Beit Naballa to his home in Rosh Ha'ayin. The terrorists picked him up, hit him with a blunt object and strangled him to death.

The two admitted killing Shaltiel but said it was not an act of murder since he was a soldier. "I'm not a murderer," Abed Shaker said. "I'm just defending my rights."

Shaltiel's mother, Varda, wept quietly during the sentencing and was comforted by Border Police. "I want the military prosecutor to press for the death penalty," she cried out. "A life sentence is no good. The next time the terrorists take hostages they will demand the release of these men which will only prove that crime pays."

Tyres slashed

again in Abu Tor

By ANDY COURT
JERUSALEM. - The tyres of 20 cars parked in a Jewish section of Abu Tor were slashed yesterday evening. It was the third such incident within a week.

The cars damaged yesterday were parked on Ein Rogel and Yishai Streets, according to Jerusalem Police spokesman Rafi Levy. On Friday night in the same area, the tyres of 14 cars either had been deflated or were slashed, Levy said.

On Sunday night, police caught an 8-year-old Arab boy reportedly letting the air out of tyres of cars parked on Ein Rogel Street. The boy reportedly admitted letting air out of the tyres on Sunday but said he had nothing to do with Friday's vandalism.

Arms cache found

in Rishon flat

RISHON LEZION (Iim). - Police were astounded to find a large ammunition cache in a locked room when they searched an Egged pensioner's flat here yesterday.

The room contained rifles, pistols, bullets, mortars, rockets and thousands of other items, piled from floor to ceiling.

Police raided the flat after an Interior Ministry official notified that the 65-year-old pensioner held 146 weapon licences. Over 40 of the licensed weapons had been sold illegally.

HOME NEWS

Likud, Labour swap acrimonious charges

By MENACHEM SHALEV
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The mud-slinging match between Labour and Likud spread yesterday to encompass the two deputy prime ministers - David Levy and Yitzhak Navon - and the ministries which they head.

In a 10-page booklet to be published today, the Herut information department accuses Navon and the Education Ministry of Labour-oriented politicization of the education system and of promoting bodies which strive to "weaken the national values."

The booklet alleges that the ministry subsidizes over 50 museums, but denies such support to museums connected to Herut. A total of 25 bands and choirs are supported by the ministry, the booklet claims, but only the Herut-Betar choir is denied funds.

Herut also claims that pupils attending ministry-approved seminars on democracy at a Labour-affiliated college are later contacted by the Labour Party. Herut also alleges that the ministry supports over 250 theatres and literary magazines, many of which espouse what it calls virulent anti-Zionism and preach against figures in Herut, such as Ariel Sharon.

An Education Ministry spokesman

man heatedly denied Herut's allegations, terming them "political demagoguery." He said that whoever prepared the booklet did not check the facts and intended to "distort reality."

The spokesman added that the ministry does not support museums in which "management is not functioning and which are subject to neglect." He said also that the ministry does not interfere in the "artistic considerations of theatres, playwrights and directors."

Labour, in turn, took a shot at the other deputy prime minister, Housing Minister David Levy, who, it is alleged, has turned his ministry into a "boothouse" for untalented political cronies.

Labour also says the internal rivalry in Herut has "affected the functioning of government offices." It cites the case of Amos Rudin, whose nomination to head the Akim construction company was agreed upon by Levy and Agriculture Minister Arye Nehamkin. Labour claims that Finance Minister Moshe Nissim is refraining from approving Rudin's appointment "because a person close to Shamir might be hurt" by his appointment.

Herut's charges against Labour are seen by observers as part of the

warming up for the Herut convention due to convene on March 29.

Asher Wallfish adds:

The Likud and the Alignment Knesset factions fumed and fulminated at each other yesterday, but it was not clear how much political significance lay in their mutual recriminations.

The Likud started the day early with a statement from its faction executive that lately "Foreign Minister Shimon Peres has been behaving like a member of the opposition, undermining the prime minister and the government in his frustration."

Dan Meridor said at the Likud executive that Peres's support for the idea of the international conference was harmful, because it was calculated to release the U.S. and Egypt from their commitment to the Camp David accords as the sole authorized formula for solving the Israel-Arab dispute.

The Alignment faction executive, not to be outdone, issued a statement in the afternoon accusing Shamir of damaging national sovereignty.

The Alignment charged that in his recent visit to Washington, Shamir contradicted the policy laid down by his predecessor Peres, without coordinating with Peres or consulting him for 10 days.

W. Bank land racket probe

By BERNARD JOSEPHS
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Police undercover agents have smashed what they believe to be a large scale land-development racket in the West Bank, police sources said yesterday.

After a two months-long secret investigation, five persons were being questioned last night, and further arrests were expected shortly.

Three of those arrested were employees of the Civil Administration's land custody and archeology department. The fourth was a privately employed engineer and the fifth was a surveyor. All are residents of the Hebron area.

According to police sources the suspects are alleged to have received bribes in exchange for approving building plans on land in the area.

They are also suspected of being secret partners in a private surveyors firm, whose plans they automatically approved.

Police said that the undercover phase of the investigation was now over but that more people were to be questioned about the affair.

Yosef Begun asks about exit visa

MOSCOW (Reuter). - Yosef Begun, freed from prison last month, visited Soviet visa authorities yesterday to discuss his application to emigrate, his son said, although he has not yet filed a new official application to leave for Israel.

Direct dialling to Egypt

Direct dialling to Egypt was instituted by Bezek yesterday, allowing Israeli phone subscribers to call without an operator's help at NIS4.19 per minute.



MK Mordechai Virshubski (Andre Brummann)



Attorney-General Yosef Harish (Rahamim Israeli)

Virshubski lambasts A-G, reaps hail of criticism

By DVORAH GETZLER
Post Knesset Reporter

Attorney-General Yosef Harish lacks the professional qualifications and the credibility needed by the man who must spearhead the pursuit of law and order, Shinui MK Mordechai Virshubski charged in the Knesset plenum yesterday.

Virshubski's remarks brought a storm of protest from all sides of the House, with Uzi Landau (Likud) terming his words a "low point in democracy and the rule of law."

Virshubski later told *The Jerusalem Post* the criticism had been a "festival of hypocrisy."

Justice Minister Avraham Sharir's reply was only a weak defence of Harish.

The main burden of the complaints from both Labour and Likud benches was that Virshubski was attacking a civil servant who could not reply.

It was also maintained that Virshubski's attack was weakening the rule of law.

To the contrary, Virshubski maintained. Harish's ineptitude was the subject of criticism within the Knesset - in the corridors of power, as he put it, at gatherings of lawyers on Friday evenings and within Harish's own office.

Virshubski listed Harish's failings in office, including his role in issuing pardons for those connected with the

Shin Bet scandal, the handling of the affair of alleged spy Mordechai Vanunu, his advice to former interior minister Yitzhak Peretz on listing converts as such in identity cards and others.

Harish was no more above criticism than anyone else, Virshubski maintained. The entire Knesset had vigorously attacked other public figures, such as Arye Dulin and Ernest Japhet over the Bank Leumi scandal.

The attorney-general's decisions were always subject to appeal to the courts, replied Sharir. We were all too quick to judge, he said. "In the name of the prime minister, I say that there are no complaints against the manner in which the attorney-general functions."

The motion was, at Sharir's suggestion, removed from the agenda.

Virshubski told *The Post* later that he "would continue the fight." He said many MKs had come to him, after voting down his proposal, and had congratulated him on his initiative. His efforts to have the matter raised in the Knesset Law Committee had been stunted aside on several occasions, he claimed.

As for Landau's charges, Virshubski said he had scanned Knesset protocols, and Landau's attacks on former attorney-general Yitzhak Zamir made his own attack on Harish look "as mild as a lamb's."

STRIKE

(Continued from Page One)

nurses and demonstrated outdoors against the government. Garbage continued to pile up in all the hospitals, supplies of medical equipment ran low and all the storage facilities were closed by the strikers, preventing the distribution of remaining linens.

A Health Ministry sources said that this strike was the worse of all those to hit the hospitals in the last four years.

SELLA

(Continued from Page One)

warned that American military officers will be strictly prevented from cooperating with Sella in any way if the promotion goes through.

Hughes is said to have also reminded Rabin that Israel had earlier promised the U.S. that "appropriate" actions involving those Israeli officials implicated in the Pollard espionage ring would be taken.



Contestants in the 'Miss Israel Contest,' whose winner will be picked today, share a laugh during the swim suit rehearsal yesterday at Yad Eliahu Stadium. (See 'Bankers and Beauty,' p.8)

(M. Daniel Mecha)

SLA accused of torturing prisoners

By DAVID HOROVITZ
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

LONDON. - Inmates emerging from the South Lebanese Army-run al-Khiam prison near Marjayoun gave chilling accounts yesterday of torture with electrodes, beatings and threats of rape at the hands of their captors.

Interviewed anonymously by *The*

Times of London correspondent in South Lebanon, one girl recounted how she was threatened with rape by SLA men and whipped with steel cord after being arrested in Shakra last February.

The report stated that the numerous and detailed account of torture at the al-Khiam prison camp have convinced the UN and Red Cross of

their authenticity, but that neither organization can do anything to help the 300 Shi'ite Moslem men and women still being held there.

Israeli officers visit the cells on Mondays and Thursdays to interrogate inmates, the report said, adding that while the Israelis never participated in the ill-treatment, they were sometimes present during torture.

Israeli Arabs welcome Peres

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Reporter

DABBURIA. - Israeli Arab leaders yesterday praised Vice Premier Shimon Peres for his efforts to advance the peace process and for his continuing attempts to achieve equality for all Israeli citizens.

The accolades were awarded when Peres, fresh from his recent talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, visited villages near here.

Peres, acclaimed as the "man of peace," was given a warm welcome by residents and civic dignitaries at this Moslem-Arab settlement - his first stop. Hundreds lined the streets to greet him.

The tributes were made later at a reception at the local council attended by residents and civic and religious leaders of neighbouring villages, including Jewish settlements.

Dabburiya village council chairman Assad Azzeh, in a speech full of praise for Peres, said he had been instrumental in helping to resolve longstanding problems in the Arab sector.

During Peres's tenure as prime minister Azzeh said, Arab local council budgets had risen by 50 per cent, more land had been made available for building homes and serious attempts to tackle other sensitive issues had been made. At the same time, Peres had striven to extract the IDF from Lebanon, warm-up the cold peace with Egypt and deal with economic problems.

"We hope," said Azzeh, turning to the guest of honour, "that you will be prime minister again, very soon."

The next speaker, Labour MK Abdul Wahab Darousha, said

Peres's name had come to be synonymous with peace. Those who opposed the concept of an international peace conference were opposed to peace between the Jewish State and the Arab world, he said.

Peres later met with members of the National Committee of Arab Local Councils who, after a few words of praise, complained about huge budget deficits, land expropriation and the ongoing problem of illegal building. National Committee chairman Ibrahim Nimmer Hussein, mayor of Shfar'am, called for the 10-member ministerial committee charged with implementing the recommendations of the Markovitz re-

port on illegal building in the Arab sector to discuss the matter with Arab leaders before making decisions.

Peres, looking relaxed and self-assured, said peace had to begin at home. He promised to look into the matters raised by the Arab local council heads, adding that the government was committed to ensuring budgetary parity between Arab councils and their Jewish counterparts.

Peres was given an equally warm welcome at the other villages on his itinerary: Umm el-Ranam, the Beduin settlement of Kfar Shibli and Kama, a Circassian village.

With deep sorrow, we announce the sudden passing of our beloved husband, father, brother and grandfather

MAX SILVERSTONE OBE

The funeral will leave today, Tuesday, March 3, 1987, at 2:30 p.m., from the Municipal Funeral Parlour, 5 Daphna St., Tel Aviv, for Holon Cemetery.

His wife: Netta
His Son: Dr. Rafi, and Miriam Adar and family
His daughter: Tessa, and Samson Daniels and family
His sister: Sylvia, and Louis Aaron (Liverpool)
and all the family in Israel and abroad
Transportation will be available for mourners

One year after the passing of our beloved

JUDITH GINIGER ז"ל

we shall conduct a graveside memorial service on Thursday, March 5, 1987, at 4:00 p.m., at the Kiryat Shaul cemetery.

The Family

On the first anniversary of the passing of our beloved

USIEL H. ELLERN ז"ל

we will hold a graveside memorial service on Wednesday, March 4, 1987 (3 Adar 5747) at 3:30 p.m. at the Kiryat Shaul cemetery. We meet at the main gate.

Ellern, Chaimowsky, Sachar, Gross, Many Families

On the second anniversary of the death of our dear

Dr. HANS SHLOMO HARTOCH ז"ל

there will be a graveside memorial service on Thursday, March 5, 1987, at 3 p.m., at Har Hamenuhot, Givat Shaul, Jerusalem. We shall meet in the plaza, at the entrance to the cemetery.

The Family

In deep sorrow, we announce the passing of our beloved

KUBA GORALSKI ז"ל

in Milan, on February 23, 1987.

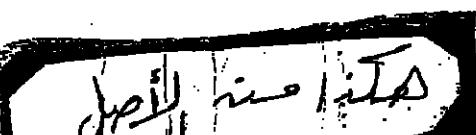
Renia Bermann
Dr. Jo and Sonia Schwartz, Yoav and Ilan
Capt. Richard and Anita Stone, Dan, Ilana and Tania
Mocca Ber, Natalie and Liana

We deeply mourn the passing of

JOHN FERNO-FERNHOUT

in Jerusalem on March 1, 1987.

From Those Who Loved Him



No massive personnel changes, new White House chief of staff pledges

WASHINGTON (AP). — Former Sen. Howard Baker took over yesterday as President Ronald Reagan's chief of staff, promising no massive shake-up in White House personnel, spokesman Martin Fitzwater said.

Fitzwater also said that White House counsel J. Peter Wallison has indicated a desire to leave and will be replaced by A.V. Culpahouse, a partner with Baker in the Washington law firm of Vinson and Elkins.

Wallison had been involved in coordinating Reagan's responses to various investigations into the Iran-Contra affair.

With Reagan preparing to address the nation this week, Baker conducted his first staff meeting, which Fitzwater described as "humorous, but to the point."

Meanwhile, the presidential spokesman said Reagan stands behind the nomination of Robert Gates as Central Intelligence agency director.

Gates was to meet with Baker later yesterday. "I have no knowledge of his (Gate's) position," Fitzwater said. "It's a matter for Mr. Gates to decide."

Fitzwater said that while Baker assured White House staff members there would be no shakeup, he "would have private consultations later if there was any need to discuss a job change."

The Washington Post reported yesterday citing unidentified sources, that Gates has decided to withdraw his name from consideration in the wake of mounting congressional questioning of his role in the sale of arms to Iran and the diversion of profits to the Contra rebels fighting Nicaragua's leftist government.

Meanwhile, Attorney-General Edwin Meese III insisted anew that the secret sales of arms to Iran did not amount to trading arms for hostages, as the presidential Tower Commission concluded. "When the President said he was not dealing

arms for hostages, he was absolutely correct because he was not dealing with the captors," Meese said.

Reagan conceded in his January 27 State of the Union address that "serious mistakes were made" in the Iranian arms sale initiative, but he never has conceded the administration was seeking to trade arms for hostages.

Reagan, who freely confesses he abhors detail, was portrayed in the Tower report as a befuddled Chief Executive whose inattention let his aides run away with his foreign policy. That perception has wrecked Reagan's popularity and threatened to condemn him to lame duck status until he leaves office in January 1989.

After meeting aides over the weekend and poring over the report of the Tower Commission, Reagan is now preparing for a nationwide television address this week to respond to the criticisms of his presidency. (AP, Reuters)

Swedes endorse unilateral sanctions against S. Africa

STOCKHOLM (Reuters). — Sweden's ruling Social Democratic Party yesterday gave the government the go-ahead to impose unilateral trade sanctions against South Africa. Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson said.

Carlsson told a news conference the party had decided the need to fight apartheid took a higher priority than Sweden's traditional policy of only joining in sanctions voted by the UN Security Council.

The full extent of the trade boycott and when it would come into force was to be decided by the government later, Carlsson said.

Industrial sources said the main impact was expected to be felt by the Swedish steel and nuclear industries, heavily dependent on South African mineral imports, and a handful of companies which supply the South African mining industry.

Sweden froze investments in the white-ruled republic in the late 1970s, and last year ordered a licensing system for all exports to South Africa, but it has been under strong political pressure to cut all trade after neighbouring Denmark voted for full economic sanctions in 1986.

Norway is preparing similar legislation.

In the first nine months of 1986, Swedish exports to South Africa totalled 559 million crowns (\$87m.), 29 per cent down on the same period of 1985. Imports fell 71 per cent to 106m. crowns (\$16.5m.).

But the modest figures disguise the strategic importance of South African trade to key sectors of Swedish industry, in which the steel industry is an important consumer of South African nickel, manganese, ferro-chrome and ferro-manganese. Swedish foundries and nuclear in-

dustries are also almost completely reliant on South African zirconium sand, a capping element used in steel tubes to contain uranium fuel.

In Johannesburg yesterday, Law and Order Minister Adrian Vlok said 83 people died in police custody last year. He said in a statement submitted in parliament that inquests had been completed in 43 of the deaths and that police were not found to have acted improperly in any of them.

The 43 deaths included 12 suicides, 27 deaths by natural causes, one murder by a fellow prisoner and three instances where prisoners were shot trying to escape, he said, adding, "In the remaining 40 deaths, the inquests are not yet finalized."

Unknown gunmen fired shots early yesterday at the home of black activist Winnie Mandela in Soweto, her lawyer said. No one was injured.

McFarlane: Arms scandal spurred suicide bid

NEW YORK (AP). — President Ronald Reagan's former national security adviser Robert McFarlane, in an interview published yesterday said he attempted suicide because of a sense of failure.

McFarlane also told the New York Times he often felt Reagan didn't absorb what he told him about foreign affairs.

McFarlane who took an overdose of valium February 9, was interviewed at his home in Bethesda, Maryland, a suburb of Washington. The Times did not say when the interview took place, but McFarlane returned home last week after being hospitalized for clinical depression.

"What really drove me to despair was a sense of having failed the country," McFarlane said. "If I had stayed at the White House, I'm sure I could have stopped things from getting worse."

McFarlane, Reagan's national security adviser until December 1985, directed the first on-and-off U.S. efforts to make contact with Iran, and in May 1986 returned without pay to head a secret mission to Tehran aimed at freeing hostages.

"I had countless times with the President when I felt he wasn't absorbing what I was telling him," said McFarlane. "He did not have a great interest in foreign affairs. He was more interested in domestic issues."

Special U.S.-Soviet talks open on Gorbachev bid

GENEVA. — U.S. and Soviet arms-control negotiators yesterday held a special meeting at which the Soviets formally presented Mikhail Gorbachev's proposal on the immediate elimination of medium-range missiles in Europe. The two sides agreed to extend the talks indefinitely.

The proposal, submitted at a one-hour meeting at the Soviet mission, is based on Gorbachev's announcement Saturday that the question of medium-range missiles (MRM) in Europe should be singled out from other issues and a separate agreement concluded "without delay."

The statement represented a reversal of Soviet policy since last October's summit in Iceland, when they insisted that agreement be reached simultaneously in all three areas under discussion in Geneva — medium- and long-range nuclear weapons, space and defence systems.

Soviet officials told a news conference in Moscow that Gorbachev's proposal was aimed at ending a deadlock at the talks. They hinted that an agreement might lead to a U.S.-Soviet summit.

Deputy Foreign Minister Alexander Bessmertnykh said the Soviet Union expects "from the U.S. concrete and positive proposals in response to our initiative."

He confirmed that a meeting between Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz was being considered.

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FOREIGN BRIEFS

China calls on U.S. to resolve Taiwan issue

PEKING (AP). — President Li Xian-nian said yesterday the Taiwan question in Sino-American relations has not been completely resolved, and expressed hope to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz that the U.S. would do something toward this end.

Premier Zhao Ziyang, who is also acting Communist Party chief, and other officials told Shultz that China's economic reforms and policy of opening to the outside world will not be affected by a current wave of political conservatism.

Shultz told Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian late yesterday at a banquet that Chinese leaders had reinforced his confidence in the durability of Sino-U.S. relations and the firmness of China's commitment to its reform policies.

Soviet media expands news, entertainment

MOSCOW (Reuters). — Moscow television is to introduce breakfast and late night news and entertainment shows as part of a drive for more openness in the media, a state broadcasting official said.

Leonid Kravchenko, deputy chief of the State Committee for Television and Radio, told a news conference Soviet television had for years been "too conservative... pompous and dull."

"There was not enough glasnost (openness)," he said, using the term that has become the slogan of Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev's efforts to bring more democracy into Soviet life.

India bans nude rites

NEW DELHI (AFP). — An annual festival of nude worship by Hindu women in southern India has been banned by the authorities to prevent a recurrence of the violence in last year's ritual in which two people died, officials said yesterday.

Karnataka State Home Secretary S.K. Ghoshal issued the ban order ending a centuries-old tradition after deciding the violence could be repeated during the festival next Sunday.

Hundreds of women gather every March 8 at Shimoga district in southern Karnataka State to bathe in the Thunga River before proceeding to a nearby temple to pray, believing that going nude on that day before a Hindu goddess will make their wishes come true.

Joan Greenwood, British actress of the '40s, dies

LONDON (AP). — Actress Joan Greenwood, star of British film classics of the 1940s, has died at her London home, her son said yesterday. She was 65.

The husky-voiced actress made her name in the '40s in movies including *Whisky Galore*, *Kind Hearts and Coronets* and in the 1963 Oscar-winning film *Tom Jones*.

Quake hits N. Zealand

WELLINGTON. — A powerful earthquake followed by more than 100 aftershocks caused widespread damage in northern New Zealand yesterday. At least five people were seriously injured and two others were missing.

Officials declared a state of emergency in parts of the north island and commandeered all available helicopters in the region to help assess the damage and ferry supplies needed for repairs.

Radio Pacific reported "many people" injured and dozens of buildings, bridges and roads damaged in the 1:36 p.m. quake that registered 6.5 on the Richter scale. The quake was centred about 15 kilometres offshore in the Bay of Plenty.

The quake was reported strongest around Whakataue, a city of 16,000 on the Bay of Plenty, about 418km. north-northeast of Wellington, the capital. Television New Zealand said 95 per cent of the

homes in the area were damaged. One witness said the "earth rolled like the sea." Others said homes and offices shook for more than 30 seconds.

Radio Pacific, broadcasting from Auckland, said there were also reports of damage from Tauranga and Rotorua, where hospitals were on standby to accept patients from Whakataue Hospital, which was evacuated because of damage to the top of the building.

About 50,000 people live in the affected area, mostly rolling farmland and forest. Meanwhile, Tass news agency reported from Moscow that an earthquake measuring up to four on the Richter scale yesterday shook the southern Siberian region of Irkutsk, near the Mongolian border. There were no reports of casualties.

It reported the epicentre inside Mongolia, some 300km. from Irkutsk. (AP, AFP).

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A member of San Salvador's security force for the U.S. embassy checks the wallet of an urban guerrilla shot during a confrontation Sunday, in which two vehicles carrying security personnel were attacked. (AFP)

Manila orders army offensive against rebels

MANILA. — The Philippines yesterday ordered attacks on Communist guerrilla bases after the military said violence had risen to an alarming level since a 60-day ceasefire ended last month.

The assault order came as the communists formally rejected President Aquino's amnesty offer made Saturday.

Armed Forces chief General Fidel Ramos told reporters he had ordered the renewed offensive to stem rebel attacks that had rocked the army in various parts of the country.

Ramos said a total of 181 people had died in 20 days of renewed fighting in the guerrilla war, which has flared sporadically for 18 years. He released figures showing more civilians had died in the fighting than combatants from either side, while government casualties also outnumbered those of the rebels.

"The trend from the end of the ceasefire (three weeks ago) is in a very significant sense alarming," Ramos told reporters during a visit to a suburban military hospital where he pinned medals on 94 soldiers wounded in combat.

In rejecting Aquino's offer of amnesty for all political offenders, the Communists accused the government of using peace talks and a recent truce for counter-insurgency operations. (Reuters, AFP)

Sahara battle left 200 dead, U.S. ambassador says

RABAT (AP). — A pitched battle between the Moroccan army and Polisario guerrillas in the western Sahara left at least 200 dead, Vernon Walters, U.S. ambassador to the UN, said in an interview published yesterday.

Both the Moroccans and the Algeria-backed Polisario claimed victory in the battle last Wednesday near El Farisa, 400 kilometres east of the Saharan capital, El Ayoune, on the 2,400-km. Moroccan defensive wall.

Walters, currently visiting Morocco, said the victims included more than 100 dead on both sides, according to comments published in the Moroccan newspaper *Le Matin Du Sahara*.

Polisario has been battling Morocco since 1976, when Morocco annexed over 182,000 sq. kms of the largely desert land. Morocco accuses Algeria of backing the guerrillas.

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will take place on Thursday, March 5, 1987, at 4.00 p.m. in the Churchill Auditorium, the Technion, Haifa.



Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir (lower right-hand corner) at the trial of John Demjanjuk (upper left corner). MK Dov Shilansky is shown at lower left. (Rahamim Israel)

Israeli cube toy wins int'l prize

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — Where in the world was the "best new toy of 1987" invented? Not in the Hungary of Rubik's Cube. But in a cellar workshop in Rehov Yaffo in down-town Haifa.

The Jumping Israel Cube was awarded the gold-prize in competition with new toys that were exhibited at the giant International Toy Fair held recently in Nuremberg, West Germany.

The inventor, Abraham Schnapp, a Holocaust survivor, was informed of his success by a Nuremberg journalist by phone yesterday.

His Jumping Cube is a rigid cardboard box 12cm. by 12cm. and when you open it out shoot nine smaller cubes, each six by six, which you wouldn't believe fit in it. The secret? They are folded into the large cube by the pressure of a thumb and put themselves back into shape when released.

But that's only the start of the game "to get the children interested," the 65-year-old, skullcap-wearing inventor told *The Jerusalem Post* with a smile in his workshop yesterday.

Each of the six faces of the nine cubes has a picture of one of six "theme puzzles" ranging from football to animals, which must be matched up. It takes from 15 to 60 minutes, judging by the performance of Schnapp's 10 grandchildren.

"I wanted something that would appeal to children of all ages," he explained, though the younger ones will enjoy only the thrill of having the cubes shoot out and of pressing them back in again.

Schnapp, born in Poland where his father was a paper product maker, immigrated in 1950 and immediately opened his own workshop here, making paper labels and printed folders.

It took him a whole year to develop the cubes and the machines to

make them. They have no metal parts and are, therefore, no hazard to children.

The cubes are said to be tough enough to withstand 300 to 400 "jumps" and "foldings." Because their manufacture still involves a lot of manual work, they won't come cheap, "until I can develop mass production machines."

A total of 2,000 exhibitors from 23 countries displayed their wares at the fair, "but we rather stole the show," Schnapp's Hungarian-born wife, Leah, said. "Even before the opening, we were besieged by the press and TV, newspapers with stories about us are still coming in from all over Europe," she added. The toy fair, said to be the world's largest, was open for a week.

As a "visiting card," Schnapp put a single cube with his firm's name and address inside a plain cardboard envelope. It jumped out when he opened it at the press conference. That preceded the fair opening. "It was immediately stolen by a well-dressed man, who, we were later told, was believed to be an industrial spy."

However, Schnapp is not too worried, as he reckons it would take months to come out with a working imitation, and in any case his cube is patented worldwide.

Schnapp said he got immediate orders for thousands of sets regardless of the price, which he could not yet quote. But he was unable to pledge delivery dates. "It'll take a hundred workers to make such quantities and my cellar won't hold them," he explained.

He also got "serious offers" from manufacturers in Germany and Britain for the production rights. "That's the way I'm thinking right now. This is going to be big for Israel, I can feel it," he said.

"We want to do something for Israel, not only for ourselves," his wife added.

Cairo communique

Text of the joint Egyptian-Israeli communique concluded in Cairo at the end of last week following the visit of Foreign Minister Shimon Peres.

1. The visit to Cairo of Mr. Shimon Peres, Vice Premier and Foreign Minister of Israel, offered an opportunity for continuing the dialogue between the two countries concerning their mutual and firm commitment to intensify efforts in the search for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East, as well as their mutual desire to further improve bilateral relations.

2. The discussions held during the visit were conducted in the spirit of the Alexandria summit of September 1986. The two sides reaffirmed their commitment to the joint press statement that concluded that meeting.

3. The two sides reiterated the commitment declared in Alexandria

to proceed actively towards the achievement of a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

4. They are convinced that there is a need to undertake necessary measures to expedite the peace process and promote agreement through the convening in 1987 of an international conference leading to direct negotiations between all the parties concerned based on UNSC resolutions 242 and 338.

5. The conference will offer an opportunity for direct negotiations that are to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict in all its aspects and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

6. In their effort to overcome remaining difficulties the two sides agreed to continue preparations and expand the dialogue to include all parties concerned.

Prime minister attends session of Demjanjuk trial

Moving experience for Shamir

By BERNARD JOSEPHS
Jerusalem Post Reporter

His face grey, his head bowed, Prime Minister Shamir listened yesterday as Treblinka survivor Eliahu Rosenberg gave an anguished and angry reply to questions from the defence in the Demjanjuk trial.

The premier, in his own words, had come to see and to hear a fragment of the drama going on at the Binyanei Ha'uma in Jerusalem. And drama he got.

Shamir sat in the front row of the crowded court room, just a few feet from the stage

where John Demjanjuk is on trial for his life. But it was the hundreds of people packed into the adjacent room, where closed-circuit coverage began yesterday, who got the best view of the prime minister's reactions.

Most of the time he sat hunched forward in his seat, listening intently as defence attorney Mark O'Connor pressed Rosenberg for the minute details of his life as a so-called work Jew, clearing the bodies from the gas chambers.

There were moments of anger, of emotion as the questioning touched on the most sensitive

of issues. Shamir's face betrayed nothing but intense concentration as it was projected on the giant screen.

After an hour he rose from his seat and left, pushing his way through a clamoring crowd of photographers. Behind him trailed his retinue of security men and assistants.

"I did not come to give statements," he said exiting from the building.

But later, addressing Jerusalem high school pupils the prime minister betrayed his feelings. "I was and still am moved," he said.

"I am full of appreciation and admiration for

the witness I heard, and I do not understand from where he draws the strength to stand up to a detailed examination of this horrible thing — not to buckle under, not to burst out."

It was impossible for any Jew not to want to see and hear the happenings at the trial. The experience should be turned into a force of "internal power," said Shamir.

And then he praised the judge, Dov Levin. "Despite the great emotion he is certainly undergoing as a Jew he is maintaining trial rules, and is trying to conduct this as a normal hearing. For this you need tremendous strength," said the premier.

Angry hospital workers protest outside Knesset

By JUDY SIEGEL
Post Science and Health Reporter

The faceless workers, who scrub floors and toilets, do the laundry, prepare the meals and store equipment in government hospitals want recognition for their efforts.

About 400 of the 11,000 administrative and maintenance workers, who have been striking for a week, turned out for a noisy protest outside the Knesset yesterday morning, while the Labour and Social Affairs Committee met inside to discuss the hospital crisis.

"Look at the peanuts we take home to our children," they shouted, waving salary slips received on Sunday. "We're like mules being led about with ropes around our neck."

Although a few representatives were allowed inside to speak to Health Minister Shoshana Arbeli-Almosino, no MKs or officials went out to meet the demonstrators. Frustrated by the "brick wall of government apathy" to their plight, they swarmed around journalists shouting about their meagre wages and hard working conditions at the hospitals.

They arrived in buses from as far away as Haifa to demonstrate in Jerusalem, but many of them are

used to getting up early. "I leave the house at 5 a.m. to start work in the kitchen at Rambam Hospital," said Shuliko Papiashvili. "I take home NIS 400."

Haim Ya'acobi, a curly-haired young man who has worked as a night watchman for 10 years at Hillel Yaffe Hospital in Hadera showed his wage slip: NIS 480 net a month.

Dozens of salary slips this reporter saw confirmed the workers' claims that they earn anywhere from NIS 350 to 550 for a full-time work load. The Treasury has claimed that the average among the administrative and maintenance workers is NIS 800.

"They say they have no money, and yet the government has managed to find the cash to bring in food from caterers that cost more per patient per day than I earn in three days," said Esther, who runs a laundry storage room at Wolfson hospital in Tel Gibborim and takes home NIS 450.

Viola, a plump woman who appears much older than her 45 years, is a widow with 12 children — five of them in the army. "I earn NIS 300 a month for a half-time job."

"Do we have to steal to support our families?" the workers shouted. "Maybe we're better off in jail."



While the MKs sat yesterday and discussed the strike at government hospitals, the striking workers shouted outside the House in a noisy protest. (Y. Zaken/Media)

The food there is better than what we can afford to bring home," wailed a cleaning worker who earns NIS 420 a month.

"I'd love to work somewhere else, but at my age — 52 — who would hire me?" cried Pirba, another kitchen worker.

The strikers claim that all they want is to get the same wages and conditions as their counterparts in Kupat Holim Clalit hospitals. "They earn much more and work shorter hours," claimed Shalom, a grounds keeper at Abarbanel Mental Hospital.

Also speaking is the 60-member union of stitching and hearing pathologists, who showed up at the demonstration in white lab coats. Although each holds a minimum of a master's degree, they too earn little more than the elementary school graduates who wash the floors and change the sheets. Dana Jadwab, head of the speech and hearing pathology unit at Sheba Hospital at Tel Hashomer takes home NIS 450 for a half-time job. She has 16 years in the field experience. All her subordinates earn considerably less.

"Without us on the job, no ear,

nose and throat operations can be performed, because we have to check patients. People who have suffered strokes and can't speak are presently going without our treatment," she said.

When the demonstrators were asked how they felt about the patients' suffering, most responded that they were sorry, but that since "no one has sympathy for us, let others worry about the patients." No one stated outright that he was willing to endanger the lives of babies or other helpless patients by remaining away from work.

CAUGHT IN THE ACT



A free-lance photographer decided to do some detective work after having his car broken into twice in the past fortnight near the Western Wall. On Friday morning he stationed himself, camera in hand, on the city ramparts between Dung Gate and Zion Gate. He did not have long to wait. At left, two men walk up to a parked car, and surreptitiously look both ways before one kicks in the car window. At right, they make off with the car radio to nearby Silwan village. The police said they hope to arrest the suspects today. A police spokesman said car break-ins have not been on the rise in Jerusalem, but he did not provide statistics.

Club Med allocation raises eyebrows

By ARYEH RUBINSTEIN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

A Jewish Agency allocation of \$100,000 to Club Med for "educational programmes" was denounced yesterday by World Mizrahi as "a blatant misappropriation of public funds." Club Med operates holiday resorts in many countries.

Rabbi Louis Bernstein, who represents World Mizrahi on the agen-

cy's board of governors, opposed the allocation when it was discussed at the board's meeting last Thursday. He was joined on this point by the Reform and Conservative representatives.

Calling for a speedy reconsideration of "this misbegotten subvention," Bernstein asked how the board could have "doled out money to sun worshippers when many Jewish day schools cannot afford to pay this month's bills."

For the first time, the board approved allocations not submitted via the channel of the agency's departments, but in the form of applications for the funding of specific

programmes submitted to the United Israel Appeal.

The Reform movement got the bulk of these funds, which totalled \$3.2m. Its share was \$1.6m., while \$900,000 went to Conservative programmes and \$700,000 to Orthodox ones.

The big items were \$250,000 for the youth hostel at the Hebrew Union College's expanded campus in Jerusalem, \$250,000 for the Progressive Judaism "outreach" programmes, \$125,000 for the Masorti (Conservative) rabbinical school, and \$100,000 for Masorti "Tali" outreach programmes (more Jewish content in state schools).

Concern over non-kosher delicacy

Snail-breeding research worries the rabbinate

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Even if the Hebrew University is successful in breeding a commercially viable snail in the Golan Heights, the university has no intention of marketing this non-kosher delicacy either in Israel or abroad.

This was the university's response to objections by the Chief Rabbinate concerning the snail-breeding experiment in the Golan Heights by researcher Dr. Yosef Heller.

When Rabbi Rahamim Levy, head of the Chief Rabbinate kashrut division, learned of the experiments, he wrote to the university, asking that they be stopped immediately.

Zalman Kvitner, an aide to Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Avraham Shapira, explained that the rabbinate's objections to the production of non-kosher products in Israel is based on the fact that many Jews abroad automatically assume that anything produced in Israel is kosher. He added that there was no assurance that the snails would not be sold in Israel.

There was a case in the past, he said, in which the rabbinate had objected to a plan to breed shellfish in the warm water resulting from the cooling process at the Electric Corporation's Hadera plant. That plan never came to fruition. Shellfish are,

however, grown commercially elsewhere for export only.

But university spokesman Ben-Zion Mushkin insisted that the university had no intention of going into the snail business. "If the experiment is successful, we'll sell the know-how to a commercial company. Even if we were to experiment with better strain of tomato, we would start raising tomatoes, we would just sell the knowledge of how to grow them to another company."

Mushkin added that he considers it "unreasonable" for the rabbinate to "interfere in the research of a university." The snail-breeding was, no secret, he added, pointing out that he had issued a press release on the subject several months ago, which it was noted that almost billion snails are consumed in France annually.

The traditional suppliers of snail such as Luxembourg, have been virtually denuded of the creature through uncontrolled field collection; the same is becoming true in the Balkans. Today most snails arrive on the dining table from France.

According to the press release, the Golan snails are similar to the preferred European variety: large size, with a pale colour, and tasty.



THE SHARETT SCHOLARSHIPS

Registration is announced for examinations, in preparation for the award of 1987/88 music, dance, drama and directing, cinema and television scholarships, in Israel

Registration for the Francois Shapira Prize for classical music instrumentalists, awarded in cooperation with Tel Aviv Museum — Public Council for Culture and the Arts.

Details and registration forms are available at the Foundation's offices, 32 Allenby, Tel Aviv, Sunday — Thursday, 9:00 a.m. — 2:00 p.m., Tel. 03-654177/8, 03-659918.

Last date for applying: April 5, 1987.

THE SHARETT SCHOLARSHIPS

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Conservatives in crisis

Pinhas H. Peli

A SHORT WHILE AGO, Prof. David Weiss Halivni, a leading Talmud scholar, announced his resignation from the faculty of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, the central institution of Conservative Judaism in America. And he did so with a loud slam of the door.

His departure was an indication of the demoralization that has recently taken hold inside the Conservative movement and its leading institution. Whether a man of Halivni's stature was driven to protest against the institution which he led, because he could no longer keep silent, or whether his exit was what some see as a hasty escape from a sinking ship, is debatable.

It is no secret that the Conservative movement, now marking its centenary, is living through an uneasy period. The question now being raised is whether this movement, with over one million adherents, has lost its spiritual and religious leadership.

In the past, the Conservative movement fulfilled a vital function in the matrix of an emerging Jewish America. Yet, today, with the consolidation of a modernist, centrist Orthodoxy on the one hand, and the shift of a significant element of the Reform movement in a more traditional direction, what place is there for Conservatism? Is the conspicuous lack of leadership and the growing discontent among the movement's rank and file merely temporary or does it signify a loss of direction?

On West 110th Street, in New York City, a few blocks away from the Seminary there resides a man who has accompanied the Seminary and the Conservative movement through 75 of its 100 years. It is difficult to imagine either of them without him. Although he is past 90 and the years have left their mark, his thinking has remained lucid and his eye is as penetrating as ever. People who have spoken to him recently (there is a *minyan* every Shabbat at his home) say that he is extremely anxious over what might happen to an institution and move-

ment in which he has invested all his energies and vision.

This man, Prof. Louis Finkelstein, is one of those rare visionaries capable of transforming ideas into deeds. And while Solomon Schechter laid the foundation of the new Conservative movement, it was Finkelstein who breathed new spirit into it. During his tenure the Seminary reached a focus of power and strength perhaps unparalleled in Jewish history.

Though almost all the faculty was European born and trained, the Seminary saw itself as a distinctively American institution. This self-perception grew with Finkelstein's rise to the chancellorship of the Seminary. This was not only because he was a native American, but also because of the broad vision concerning the place of Judaism in the American scene, which he fostered.

This vision acquired greater impetus following the destruction of Jewish centres in Europe. Finkelstein's scholarly studies delved into the post-Second Temple period (his volumes on the Pharisees and on Rabbi Akiva) and into the period of the development of the Jewish community outside Eretz Yisrael (his study on Jewish self-government in the Middle Ages).

Finkelstein identified emotionally with the generation of Rabbis Gamaliel and Rabbi Akiva. He believed that in America, too, the Torah would revitalize Jews and Judaism; that a new Jewish world rising in America would not duplicate the lost and irreplaceable European model but provide a new and unique reality, wholly American in place and time, yet drawing from the well-springs of traditional Judaism.

Inspiring and organizing Jewish youth, founding a Jewish museum, developing Jewish programmes in the media, stressing the Judeo-Christian roots of American ethical consciousness, proclaiming the ideals of Rabbinic Judaism (not

necessarily national-ethnic Judaism), addressing vital social issues—all these were on the agenda which Finkelstein drew up for American Jewry in the aftermath of World War II and the Holocaust.

These endeavours coincided with developments in American Jewish life which, in those years, merged from obscurity to a respected position on the domestic scene.

Attractive, large synagogues sprouted everywhere. Jews in massive numbers, among them the children of socialists and dyed-in-the-wool atheists, began to identify the synagogue as a focus of Jewish life. The Conservative movement set the pace for an American Jewry in search of a new expression and a new image, playing a crucial role in those years of recovery after the Holocaust.

NEW circumstances have altered both Finkelstein's dream and the institutions which he led. The State of Israel came into being and stamped its imprint on American Jewry. The ideologies of the Conservative movement held ambivalent views on the new state, emerging as the new centre of Jews and Judaism.

At the same time, modern Orthodoxy, too, discovered America. Jews following Halacha no longer had to go into seclusion or resign from the mainstream of American life. The Orthodox scientists and the new apologetics of Halacha observance as represented, for example, in Herman Wouk's *This is My God*, mark this turning point.

It has become increasingly clear that the "supermarket" of Conservative Judaism under Finkelstein can no longer provide the answers. Moreover, Finkelstein and the splendid faculty he assembled at the Seminary did not succeed in producing students like themselves. The criticism and doubts emanating from the classrooms of the late Mordechai Kaplan and H.L. Ginzburg were a more pronounced influence on the products of JTS than the religiosity of Abraham Heschel and Louis Finkelstein.



Louis Finkelstein

An ever-widening gap has been created between the supreme body and the rabbi out in the field. Such a gap exists in other movements as well, but to a lesser extent. In the Conservative movement, the gap indicated an incipient crisis: while the old faculty remained in their positions of authority, the movement carried on basking in their glow; their presence covered the growing emptiness. With the departure of Finkelstein and the demise of his contemporaries, the movement has drifted along aimlessly like sheep without a shepherd. The crisis that has shaken the Conservative movement in recent years continues unabated, threatening the life of one of American Jewry's greatest movements.

There is much fanfare during the present centenary celebrations. There is also much noise regarding the present, unfortunate deterioration in the religious situation in Israel. A viable movement cannot thrive, however, on the laurels of the past, nor on intervening in Israeli politics.

Without a bold vision for the future and a clear statement of its position on Halacha, the entire structure of the century-old movement could collapse beyond repair. The sounds emanating these days from 3080 Broadway, the headquarters of the Conservative movement, are not particularly encouraging.

Rabbi Peli is professor of Jewish thought and literature at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

Synagogue and State

Louis Bernstein
New York



The state capital at Albany

THE CENTRE of American political activity and the glamour that goes with it are in Washington. The American Jewish community has mastered the fine techniques of political lobbying in the nation's capital. There are outspoken and eloquent Jewish legislators in both houses of Congress who can be counted on to project Jewish interests and protect Jewish rights.

Far less glamorous and distant from the glare of the national and international media are the state capitals where legislation touching on the daily activities of the citizen is considered as a matter of course. State and local legislators may impact more directly on the citizen and the community than the distant Congress which is primarily concerned with foreign affairs and defence.

New York State still has the largest Jewish population. Even outside New York City there are sizable Jewish communities in upstate cities such as Rochester and Buffalo. The state regulates such important matters as marriage and divorce. New York State's department of agriculture is responsible for enforcing kosher observance by establishments claiming to be kosher. Fraud unheeded by the department's inspectors can result in heavy fines. The department periodically publishes a list of establishments that have pleaded guilty or been found guilty of violating its regulations.

Jewish legislators are a powerful factor in Albany, the state capital. Melvin Miller is speaker of the assembly, and Saul Weprin is the chairman of its most important committee: the committee on ways and means. Weprin, who represents the 24th assembly district in Queens, could have had a congressional seat, but he preferred the more powerful state position.

There are 25 Jews in the assembly, almost all Democrats from New York City, and 13 state senators, almost all Democrats from the city. The Jewish Republicans are almost all from upstate, although one, Frank Padovan, is from Queens. The assembly is predominantly Democratic and the senate Republican.

Jews constitute 15-20 per cent of New York State's population. They tend to vote Democratic, and they also vote more consistently in party

primary elections than other groups. This gives Jews additional political clout, as they cast as much as 35 per cent of the primary vote in some sections of the state. In recent years, young Jews seem to be indifferent to the voting process, a source of concern to political activists.

There is no formal caucus of Jewish state legislators, although there is a Black-Hispanic caucus and even an Italian one. According to Weprin, it is a case of Jewish oversensitivity to what the public might think.

But the Jewish legislators in Albany do meet informally on such issues as discrimination or the Arab boycott. There is a national organization of Jewish legislators which meets annually at a luncheon when the organization of all state legislators convenes in July or August. At these luncheons, the Jewish legislators compare notes on issues of mutual interest.

NOT SURPRISINGLY, the Jewish commitment of the New York State legislators is high. There are three Sabbath observers from New York City in the state assembly and another from Rockland County. Nobody bats an eyelash when they slip out of a session during the short Fridays of the winter months.

One of the four, Shelley Silver, representing the old Jewish East Side, was the sponsor of the now famous "Get Law" in 1983. The law requires each party in civil divorce proceedings of a marriage solemnized by a clergyman to certify that

he or she has removed any barrier to the remarriage of the other party. The bill, designed to help *agunot* was opposed by some Jewish groups along with civil liberty groups who saw it as infringing on the principle of the separation of church and state. Even the governor hesitated to sign it because he questioned its constitutionality. So far, the law remains on the books, and it is a boon to spouses who might otherwise not be able to obtain a religious divorce.

Dov Hikind represents the Orthodox Boro Park neighbourhood. Two bills he introduced became law. They reflect the interests of his constituency. One prohibits hospitals from requiring patients as family members to write when religious beliefs temporarily prohibit them from doing so (i.e., on the Sabbath). The second prohibits the holding of court sessions on a Saturday when party to the litigation observe Saturday as a holy day. Another measure sponsored by Weprin (whose children attended a yeshiva) provides that kosher food will be made available for sequestered jurors. A pending bill sponsored by Silver would prohibit discrimination hiring practices relating to an aspect of religious observance.

Not all the bills of Jewish interest become law. The legislature has killed or refused to consider bills declaring Yom Kippur a state holiday and protecting the right to wear *yarmulka* (kippa, skull-cap) on the job. But the record of accomplishment of the Jewish legislators in Albany is an impressive one. For the potential *agunah*, the "Get Law" is far more important than an education bill. Bills against the Arab boycott and against discrimination are as important to the Jewish community as almost anything going through Washington's legislative agenda.

State capitals are an area of legislative activity and cannot be overlooked by the Jewish community. Time and again "sleeper" bills have slipped by in one of the 50 state legislatures restricting ritual slaughtering, Sabbath observance, or other Jewish religious practices. New York State, because of its large Jewish population and able Jewish legislators, has built-in sensors.

The writer, rabbi of Young Israel of Windsor Park, is a veteran member of the Presidents' Conference.

Dressing down

Tom Tugend/Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES - The yellow star and armband that Jews were forced to wear during the Holocaust were not an invention of the Nazis but only the most recent degradation in a long history of marking Jewish minorities through mandatory dress codes.

As far back as the ninth century CE, Caliph Omar I ordered Jewsess to distinguish themselves from Islamic women in Turkey by wearing two rounded yellow patches on their outer garments. If a Jewish woman wore a turban, it also had to be yellow, but two of the buttons on her garment had to be of a different colour.

Part of the history of restrictive Jewish dress through the ages has been resurrected in an unusual exhibit on Jewish Brides of Shame at the Los Angeles Jewish Community Library. The exhibit's creator, Trudi Strobel, has painstakingly recreated the costumes from historic sketches and paintings, using the fibres of the specific era.

Caught by the advancing German army during the invasion of her

native Russia, Strobel "had the misfortune of living my pre-school years in concentration camps."

Two of her most persistent recollections of those years are the yellow badges worn by the prisoners and a beloved doll which was snatched from her by a camp guard.

After coming to Los Angeles and raising a family, Strobel decided to combine her interest in Jewish history and her skills as a dressmaker and weaver to create the Brides of Shame exhibit.

"Doing this was a very moving and therapeutic experience," she says. "I feel it is my personal contribution to Jewish history."

Three of the dresses, shown in the accompanying photo, cover codes enforced between the 13th and 18th centuries in Egypt and Europe.

The garment on the left was decreed in 1215 CE by Pope Innocent III and enforced through the 15th century. To the distinctive yellow badge shaped like a ring, some local rulers added requirements for a



pointed yellow hat and a cape.

A Jewish woman living in Egypt between the 15th and 17th centuries, modelled in the centre, was identified by a white kerchief, striped with gold and silver, and violet-coloured clothing.

The Nuremberg laws of 1755 required a Jewess to wear a cap with two stiffly starched pointed wings and two blue stripes, known as the square veil, and a ruff or pleated collar. Dressed in this fashion, Jewish matrons in Germany did not have to display the customary yellow badge, Strobel notes.

The dress codes were part of the widely prevalent sumptuary laws, whose declared purpose was to curb extravagant displays of all kinds which might offend gentiles. The laws not only told Jewish women and men what to wear, but how many guests might be invited to private festivities, the dishes that could be served, and the nature and number of wedding gifts.

It is planned to make the doll exhibit a permanent part of the Martyrs Memorial and Holocaust Museum of the L.A. Jewish Federation council.

Stamped on the memory

Harvey D. Wolinetz

LATIN AMERICA is not only a haven for Nazi war criminals; it has also been a place of refuge for Jews who fled the Nazis and other persecutors throughout this century.

A recent stamp issue marking the 50th anniversary of the establishment of a B'nai B'rith branch in Uruguay serves as a reminder about one of the more vibrant but often overlooked Jewish communities of South America.

Jewish life in Uruguay dates back to 1898, but it was only in the 1920s, when about 18,000 Polish Jews arrived, that the community began to grow. There was another influx of Jews in the early 1930s following the Nazi rise to power. After World War II, displaced persons started to come, and in the 1950s Hungarian Jews fleeing Communist oppression. Today the Jewish population of Uruguay is about 44,000, mostly in the capital, Montevideo.

Uruguayan Jewry is the third largest Jewish community in Latin America. It comprises four *kehillot*, the two oldest of which are the Ashkenazi and the Sephardi, which

were founded in 1932. These, along with the German-speaking and Hungarian *kehillot* are unified in an umbrella organization, Comité Central Israelita. The Comité acts as spokesman for Uruguayan Jewry in dealings with the government.

The Uruguayan government maintains excellent relations with the State of Israel. In 1920 it supported Jewish efforts to establish itself in Palestine. Uruguay supported the Balfour Declaration and the formation of the UN Special Committee on Palestine. It voted for the 1947 UN partition resolution and its lobbying helped to ensure the resolution's passage.

The release of the B'nai B'rith stamp reflects the good relations between the Jewish community and the government. The organization has expanded its services beyond the Jewish community. One of its major efforts has been to obtain used medical equipment from foreign

hospitals for distribution to local hospitals. It also publishes a monthly magazine, *Panorama* (in Spanish), describing its activities and reporting events in and connected with Israel. A copy of the magazine may be found in the library of the B'nai B'rith Centre in Jerusalem.

The strong bond between the Jewish community and the State of Israel is seen in many local activities. On two occasions, once during the Six Day War and again during the Yom Kippur War, the community raised a million dollars to help the strained Israeli economy. This was in addition to the many volunteers who came here to lend their personal, physical support.

Leaders of the Jewish community regularly consult with the Israeli ambassador on matters concerning Israel and the local Jewish community. When President Zalman Shazar paid a state visit to Uruguay, the Uruguayan government issued a postage stamp to mark the occasion. The 1966 release features a portrait of Shazar, a menorah and the flags of Israel and Uruguay.



1966 stamp to mark President Zalman Shazar's visit to Uruguay.



B'nai B'rith 50th anniversary stamp.

Jewish life in Uruguay continues to be comfortable. Nevertheless, the community understands the importance of maintaining strong bonds and support to the State of Israel.

THE FOUR CORNERS

Meetings in Budapest: Two major international Jewish organizations will hold their executive committee meetings in Budapest within a month of each other, spokesmen for the World Jewish Congress and the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture reported. They noted that this was unprecedented, marking the first such gatherings in a Communist country in Eastern Europe. The WJC meeting is May 6-9. The Memorial Foundation meeting is June 30-July 2.

Israel Singer, WJC secretary-general, said the Hungarian government had agreed to the meeting and to participation of all members of the WJC executive, including those from Israel.

"This agreement represents a significant breakthrough which we expect can have an impact not only on Jewish relations with the Eastern bloc, but on the general state of East-West relations."

Jerry Hochbaum, executive director of the Memorial Foundation, said the Hungarian government agreed to the meeting of his orga-

Cold war thaw

nization following correspondence by president Philip Klutznick, with Imre Miklos, Rumanian Minister of Culture.

Hochbaum noted that the foundation has been active in Budapest since 1965. It has supported the rabbinical seminary in Budapest - the only one of its kind in Eastern Europe - and has helped train more than 30 rabbis and five cantors. These rabbis and cantors now serve Jewish communities throughout Hungary, as well as Riga, Moscow, East Berlin, Leningrad, and Prague. The foundation also supports the Gymnasium, a Jewish high school in Budapest, and the *yeshiva k'tana* there.

War criminals in Canada: The Canadian government has revised portions of the Deschenes Commission's report on Nazi war criminals in Canada in order to protect the privacy and civil rights of persons investigated. Justice Minister Ray Hnatyshyn disclosed to the House of Commons recently.

He denied vigorously that the report is being purged for political

reasons or as a result of pressure from East European ethnic groups which fear they may be branded Nazi collaborators. Leading Canadian Jewish organizations have decided to withhold comment until the report is made public.

The only goal is to avoid public identifying people and making us the innocent are protected, Hnatyshyn said. He said parts of the report will have to be reprinted but refused to say when it will be presented to the House of Commons. He would not speculate on when the government will respond to any recommendations for action against suspected war criminals living in Canada.

The Commission, headed by Quebec Superior Court Justice J. Deschenes spent 22 months investigating and compiling its report which fills 1,200 pages and was presented to the government of Prime Minister Brian Mulroney last December 30.

The Jewish World page, which appears on alternate Tuesdays, edited by Aryeh Rubinstein.



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TODAY

WHEN AKIM, the Association for the Rehabilitation of the Mentally Retarded, held its first field day 14 years ago, the participants played simple games and were led from one place to another by anxious organizers.

Today, sports activities have become an integral part of Akim's programmes, and games like football and basketball are being played — albeit with special regulations — by the organization's members.

If its "Roof for the Retarded Child" fund-raising campaign, being held today, is a success, Akim will expand its sports programmes and facilities even more.

"Physical exercise and sport is important for every body, but for the retarded, they also can help in cognitive development," says Dr. Atara Sherman, vice-principal of Wingate Institute's Vinman College of Physical Education, head of the college's special education department, and volunteer coordinator of Akim's sports programmes.

Retarded children develop more slowly, she explains, and need to be taught things which others seem to pick up naturally. They may develop problems of coordination or become tired or unable to concentrate if not given proper physical stimulation. Sports, on the other hand, gives these children more energy and more self-confidence.

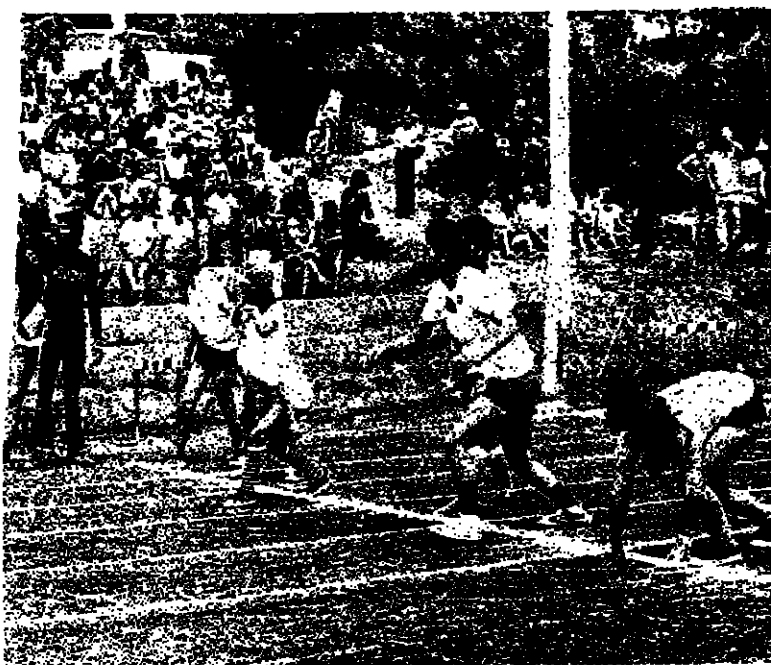
Twelve years ago, when the first Special Olympics for the Retarded was held in the U.S., Sherman was teaching at a university there.

"We in special education were very sceptical about the idea of bringing all the retarded to one place [to participate in sports]," she recalls. "But the results — again in terms of self-confidence and its beneficial effects — were amazing."

Four years ago, Sherman led a delegation of eight Akim athletes to the Special Olympics, and she will be taking another group this summer.

Not just fun and games

Sports activities can do much to improve the body and the spirit, according to experts at Akim, the Association for the Rehabilitation of the Mentally Retarded, which is holding its annual fund-raiser today. Lea Levavi reports.



A sports day for Akim at Wingate.

"We were concerned that there would be problems because of the language, but there weren't. They spoke Hebrew, the Americans spoke English, the South Americans spoke Spanish — and everyone got along beautifully together and had a wonderful time."

Whether or not an individual has the opportunity to participate in an international event like the special Olympics, sports at Akim clubs, in

institutions, sheltered workshops and special schools, meet an important need for the participants.

"When they see Maccabi Tel Aviv on television, it is a wonderful feeling for them to know they can play the same game. It doesn't matter that they can stay for 30 seconds under the basket — or for an unlimited time — while Maccabi players only have three," says Sherman. Sport is only one of the ways in

which Akim tries to make life as full and normal as possible for the retarded. As the first priority is to try to keep the retarded in the community, that means establishing pre-kindergartens, social clubs for school children and young adults, and independent living arrangements (hostels or supervised apartments) for retarded adults whose families are no longer able to care for them at home.

Akim provides these and other services — such as guidance for parents of the retarded — but is limited because of insufficient funds. As a result, many families request institutionalization for their retarded children because they have no support and can no longer cope alone. Currently, there is a waiting list of 1,600 for institutional placement, although many of the retarded do not need it. Akim's chairman Yosef Zalmanov explains. There would be fewer if more community services were available.

As for those who are so severely retarded that placement is the only alternative, he said one-third of the current institutionalized population of 5,000 could be deinstitutionalized and their places could be given to people who need this care.

"Public attitudes have changes for the better over the past few years," Zalmanov says.

"When we used to want to build a hostel or rent an apartment for a few retarded adults, residents of the area would take us to court to prevent it. Now, they've learned that these are good and quiet neighbours and that there is nothing to fear."

Community care is better for the retarded — and cheaper for the country — than institutionalization, he points out. What is needed is both more public support and a change of government priorities so that less money is invested in institutional care and more in community services.

The 'ugly-duckling' hospital

Judy Siegel-Itzkovich

who cares" or a "doctor who treats me like a human being, not a number," is very common at Bikur Holim.

Despite the poor physical facilities and layout of the buildings, about 10 per cent of the patients live outside Jerusalem and are hospitalized at Bikur Holim by choice. It is especially popular among the very Orthodox, who — because of their increasing presence in northern Jerusalem — regard it as a neighbourhood hospital.

THERE ARE three main types of hospital in Israel — government-owned, Kupat Holim Chaiit and those established by voluntary organizations. Jerusalem has only the third type, and thus has been spared the recent strikes by government and Kupat Holim Chaiit workers that have paralysed hospitals in the rest of the country.

Only when the doctors or nurses were ordered out on strike by their national unions did Bikur Holim suffer from a walkout. "But even then, our staffers did it more humanely than elsewhere," Professor Stern maintains.

Dr. Moshe Duda'i, deputy head of Bikur Holim's four-year-old surgical department, says that medical professionals and other hospitals in Jerusalem are "less materialistic" than their counterparts in the rest of the country.

Duda'i, 39, happens to be the younger brother of Hillel Duda'i, for five years the Treasury's official in charge of wages in the public sector, who has resigned but is still holding his position until a replacement is found. The elder Duda'i, who is compelled to say "no" to all demands for wage increases, is regarded with near-adoration by the hospital nurses' leaders who organized a series of strikes around the country last year.

Dr. Duda'i says that whenever he and his brother get into a discussion of the health system, they find themselves on opposite sides of the fence. "He naturally has to look at the economic aspect of the problem, the broader view. I am primarily interested in the medical and patient aspect," he told *The Jerusalem Post*.

Duda'i left Hadassah almost three years ago in order to help Bikur Holim's new surgical department on its feet.

THE HEALTH Ministry, aware of the urgent need for surgical wards in a centre-of-town hospital, approved 12 beds. But, explains Dr. Duda'i, a doctor studying a specialty cannot be recognized as a specialist if he works in a department with fewer than 30 beds. Finally, the ministry allowed Bikur Holim to have 30 beds, but it has never had the funds to provide the necessary facilities for more than 18.

"If we only had someone to donate \$500,000 to build a decent surgical



A corridor of Bikur Holim (Auerbach)

department, we would happily give it his or her name," Dr. Duda'i promises, looking forward to a time when patients will not have to lie on beds in the halls just hours after an operation.

Although friends of Bikur Holim have provided adequate — even advanced — equipment in most departments, some important devices, such as monitors in the recovery room — are still far beyond the hospital's means.

The family of Dr. Duda'i — his wife and four children aged 10-17 — have learned to live with his devotion to the hospital. He leaves home at 7.15 every morning and doesn't return until 8.30 or 9 at night, sometimes going back to the hospital after that. He often visits patients at the weekend. When the children were younger and had earlier bedtimes, he often went for days without their seeing him.

The young surgeon doesn't have a quick prescription for rescuing the beleaguered hospital system. The Israel Medical Association is demanding that all hospitals become autonomous units under the umbrella of a "hospital authority" but Dr. Duda'i isn't sure that this would be practicable.

He does, however, support the proposal of Health Minister Shoshana Arbeli-Almosino to set up an independent commission of experts and public figures who would, once and for all, study the health system, make recommendations and push for their implementation.

"We have a decent standard of health care that can compare favourably in many fields with that practised in Western developed countries. But these constant strikes," he says, "are running the whole system into the ground."

THE HOSPITAL'S medical director, Professor Stern, is in a more delicate position, knowing well that anything he says for the government and against Kupat Holim, or vice versa, could be used against him in his efforts to win adequate financial support for the hospital. Medicine is very much a political matter.

But he is willing to say that Bikur Holim is discriminated against when it comes to government funding. Of its annual budget of \$10 million, only NIS 205,000 is a government subsidy. With 70,000 hospitalizations days a year, the government pays only NIS 3 per patient per day, "a ridiculous figure," says Prof. Stern. Bikur Holim, like all other hospitals, gets a rebate of NIS 180 per day per patient from the health funds. But that is far from enough, and the government hospitals, as well as the Kupat Holim Chaiit hospitals, are regularly bailed out by the government to the tune of tens of millions of dollars. The rest, especially Bikur Holim, get no such handouts, and have to manage on their own.

When Mordechai Gur was health minister, he was initially opposed to Bikur Holim, and talked of closing it down. But after a protracted visit, and conversations with patients and doctors, he turned into a vocal supporter.

But that verbal support was not translated into financial support, and the hospital continues to feel that it has been treated badly. A caucus of Orthodox MKs from time to time decry the "discrimination" against the hospital, but their protests have not yet been effective.

Professor Stern says he copes, with help from his devoted staff, who work very hard and efficiently with the limited means at their disposal. Bikur Holim pays interest on its bank overdraft, but its debt, proportional to the number of beds, is smaller than that of any other hospital.

Hospital stays at Bikur Holim were shorter on average in 1986 than in the previous year, as modern treatment cuts the stay of some patients. However, premature babies and adults who would formerly have died quickly are now saved, and require weeks of hospitalization, so this balances out.

As at all other Jerusalem hospitals senior doctors are allowed to supplement their meagre salaries by treating patients under *Sharap*, the private medical service instituted by Hadassah. Patients pay the hospital directly for being able to choose the specialist they want, and the fee is shared by the doctor and the hospital.

Stern believes that while not ideal, this arrangement is the best *modus vivendi* and insurance against rampant "black medicine." *Sharap*, he suggests could serve as a workable model for government and Kupat Holim hospitals around the country. But even this would not save the entire hospital system from its current floundering in strikes and debts. Only major surgery could do that.

Traditional coverings

has taken on mass proportions: Clothing shops featuring *shari* wear — clothing for the Islamic woman who wants to cover her entire body — are springing up around the country.

But not just any top-to-toe garment will fit the bill. According to Dr. Mahmoud A'id, a lecturer at the Islamic College in East Jerusalem, *shari* clothing must fit the following criteria — or it is unacceptable:

- the gown must be wide, since the main objective is for the dress to discourage sexual thoughts in men, and a tightly-fitting one will encourage them;
- the cloth must be thick enough to prevent a man from seeing the shape of the woman's body;
- the gown must cover the entire body except for face and hands;
- the dress must be plain since God forbids the "decoration" of women for anyone but their husbands;
- the cloth cannot be that used in men's wear for, as the Koran states, "Curse the man who wears women's clothing and curse the woman who wears men's clothing;" and,
- Islamic women's wear must not be like that of non-believers because the Moslem person must be different from others in prayers, habit and dress.

These restrictions seem to leave little room for innovation in today's fashion terms. Colourful dresses are out because they are considered "decorative;" many types of material are unacceptable because they are used in "unisex" fashions.

YA'ACOV LAM DAN

Today is edited by Amy Levinson.

TENNIS

For Amos - one that got away

Post Sports Staff and Agencies
KEY BISCAVINE. - Israel's No. 1 tennis player Amos Mansdorf missed a golden opportunity to advance to the final 16 - and possibly the quarter finals - of a major international tournament on Sunday, when he lost his third round match to an unseeded American at the \$1.8 million International Players Championships.

Mansdorf lost to Derrick Rostagno in straight sets, 6-7 (4-7), 1-6, 4-6 just a day after learning that two-time Wimbledon champion Boris Becker's withdrawal had assured him of a surprisingly easy third round match.

Rostagno, ranked 53 in the world on the ATP computer, now faces fellow countryman Robert Seguso, seeded 20th in the tournament and No. 27 in the world, who struggled past unseeded South African David Visser (92 on the computer) 7-6, 4-6, 6-7, 6-4, 6-4.

Small consolation to Amos is the fact that the 17 computer points he amassed by gaining the third round have elevated him to No. 30 on the ATP computer, the highest ranking he has held so far.

Mansdorf now joins the rest of Israel's Davis Cup squad in Bonn, having pocketed some \$4,500 for his travels in Key Biscayne.

In other action at Key Biscayne, top seeded Ivan Lendl got off to a slow start when defeating Austrian Thomas Muster but women's top seed Martina Navratilova cruised into the quarterfinals with a straight-set win over 10th seeded Gabriela Sabatini.

In a third round match, Lendl beat the unseeded Muster 3-6, 6-4, 6-0, 6-2, while Navratilova defeated Sabatini 6-1, 6-3 in the fourth round.

American Jimmy Connors, seeded sixth, also advanced by beating unseeded Australian Darren Cahill 6-3, 6-3, 6-1.

Steffi Graf of West Germany, officially elevated to number two in the world today ahead of American Chris Evert Lloyd, gave up only 17 points in beating American Katarina Keri 6-4, 6-1 in a fourth-round match.

Although he pounded 16 aces in his four-set win over Muster, Lendl was displeased with his performance, describing his play as "mediocre tennis at best."

"The guys are playing well against me... sometimes I am not able to keep up with them," said Lendl. "I've been working hard

and this is not the way I play tennis. One day, I'll go out and it will break and I'll play well."

Following his win over Cahill, Connors chided Americans for not giving their players enough support and for panicking because their countrymen are no longer among the world's top-ranked professionals.

"When you had 12 of the top 16 seeds at Wimbledon, the U.S. Open and all the tournaments, Americans, the American public couldn't wait to root for the upcoming Swedes and Czechs," said Connors.

"Now there are the Czechs and the Swedes and we don't have any Americans and you (the public) are panicking," he said.

"So the American people have to make up their mind what they want. If they want the best then root for them and get behind them. No matter what they do, they are American and you are going to root for them and that's it," said Connors.

"If you don't, take what you get," he said.

In the latest computer rankings of the world's professionals, Connors, 34, is the only American in the top 10. He is ranked eighth.

Of the top 20 players in the world, only four are Americans. The others are John McEnroe, 11, Tim Mayotte, 12, and Brad Gilbert, 18.

Hapoel expects many stars for 13th games

By JACK LEON
Post Sports Reporter

TEL AVIV. - A dozen world-class American track and field stars will be among the record 2,000 athletes from 40 countries expected here for the 13th Hapoel Games, opening at the Ramat Gan Stadium on Independence Day, May 4. Nearly 5,000 Israelis will be challenging the guests from abroad in this eight-day Bar Mitzva meet, at which a total of 26 sports are being contested from Nahariya to Eilat.

Hungary, Poland and Romania have confirmed their participation in the event, games organizing committee director Giora Glazer told me on Friday. In addition, contacts were taking place with Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia - as well as Egypt - in the hope that these countries will accept Hapoel's invitation to the meet.

Black Africa will be represented by Kenya, Liberia and, for the first time, Cameroun. However, South Africa will be excluded, both because the Republic has been ousted from the international federations of many of the sports being contested, and in those in which South Africa is still a member, the presence of its athletes could result in the withdrawal of some overseas participants. Other newcomers to the quadrennial games will be India, El Salvador and Surinam.

Among the crack American squad will be world 100-metre record holder Calvin Smith, whose 1983 time of 9.93 seconds has never been bettered. Smith is also the world's seventh fastest man over 200 metres, by virtue of his best effort of 19.99; Harvey Glance, the 100-metre runner-up at the 1985 world athletic championships in Frankfurt, with a time of 10.05; Michael Frank, winner of the 400 metres at the Frank-



Sebastian Coe

furt meet in 44.47; and Danny Harris, another top 400-metre man and bronze medalist at this distance at the Los Angeles Olympics, clocking 48.13. The four Americans will join up to represent their country in the 4 x 400-metre relay.

Britain's famed Sebastian Coe will be another of the "super stars" among the world and Olympic champions at the three-day track and field meet, being held at Hadar Yosef's National Stadium here. Coe won 1,500-metre gold medals at the Moscow and Los Angeles Olympics and silvers in the 800-metre event at both these Olympiads.

Coe, a former one-mile world champion, will be the focus of interest at the Hapoel Games inaugural "Golden Mile" race round Kikar Hamedani in Tel Aviv. The high-calibre overseas entry will include members of the U.S. squad.

The crowded athletics programme also takes in a 21-km. half-marathon in Ashkelon, which will likewise have a strong international field and Yair Karni and Zehava Shmueli will lead the home challenge.

Another innovation this time will be the first International Sportiada for clubs attached to business companies, taking place in Eilat. One hundred athletes from Europe will join 1,500 Israelis at the meet, which will double as this country's seventh annual championships for company sports.

Swimming, basketball and tennis will be other central events of this spring festival of sport. A big attraction in the four-day swimming competition at the Tel Aviv University pool will be West Germany's Olympic gold medalist and world champion Michael Gross. The names of several other top swimmers will be announced shortly, Glazer reported.

The basketball tournament is being contested by the national teams of Israel, Belgium, Canada, Poland and West Germany (coached by Ralph Klein), plus a high-grade U.S. side. Matches are scheduled for Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Haifa, as well as Arad and Semah in the Jordan Valley.

Two top-class tennis pros from abroad are coming for exhibition matches at Ramat Hasharon against an Israeli selected team, which it is hoped will include Shlomo Glickstein and Amos Mansdorf. Hapoel is going ahead with the two-day event, even though plans to bring over Boris Becker fell through amidst



Calvin Smith

acrimonious exchanges between the Israeli Tennis Association and Hapoel. The first such exhibition series was held within the framework of the 1983 games, with the participation of Americans Chip Hooper and Mel Purcell, Glickstein and Shahr Perkin.

Supplementing the sports programme will be a country-wide rhythmic gymnastics competition, in which 10 of the best groups in Europe are due to take part.

SOCCER

Toto Cup final

TEL AVIV. - Maccabi Netanya and Shimon Tel Aviv meet in the final of the Toto Cup at the Ramat Gan Stadium at 4 p.m. today. The winners will earn NIS 60,000 and inclusion in the European Intertoto competition this summer. The losing finalists will receive NIS 20,000.

The Football Association rejected the idea broached by the clubs that regardless of today's result they split the NIS 80,000 prize money.

The F.A., meanwhile, is hesitating about authorizing a proposed match between Bnei Jerusalem and Liverpool on March 16. The F.A. fears it might affect the size of the crowd and income for the friendly international between Israel and West Germany at Ramat Gan on March 25.

The second division Toto Cup final will be between Hapoel Acre and Hapoel Haifa at Hadera at 2.30 p.m. today.

Brave Diego

NAPLES (AFP). - Diego Maradona will not forget scoring the 200th goal of his career to keep Napoli four points clear at the top of the Italian league.

The Argentine captain was only centimetres off the ground when he spectacularly got down to head the equaliser in the 1-1 home draw with Sampdoria.

Maradona's brave dive, when most others would have tried to get a foot to the ball, cost him two stitches as a defender's boot caught him in the face a split second after he had got in his header.

NHL

Washington	7	New York Rangers	0
Hartford	5	New Jersey	5
St. Louis	5	Pittsburgh	5
Chicago	6	Los Angeles	1
Minnesota	5	Philadelphia	4
Vancouver	4	Buffalo	2
Winnipeg	6	Calgary	3

WALES CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Philadelphia	37	20	5	79	186	186
NY Islanders	37	26	9	65	216	209
Washington	38	28	8	64	223	232
NY Rangers	37	31	8	67	230	230
Pittsburgh	23	30	11	57	234	230
New Jersey	24	32	6	54	217	279

ADAMS DIVISION

Hartford	33	24	7	73	220	214
Montreal	37	29	9	69	217	203
Boston	31	27	5	68	236	210
Quebec	24	32	8	56	205	211
Buffalo	13	34	6	32	217	239

CAMPBELL CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit	38	26	9	65	207	218
Minnesota	38	28	7	66	242	232
Chicago	33	30	10	60	232	238
St. Louis	33	31	11	58	211	233
Toronto	24	33	6	54	219	247

SMYTH DIVISION

Edmonton	38	29	5	81	287	221
Calgary	37	29	2	76	252	236
Winnipeg	35	24	7	76	224	224
Dallas	25	31	7	52	212	238
Los Angeles	20	38	4	46	217	242

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Boston	43	15	7	94	—	—
Washington	31	25	3	64	11	11
Philadelphia	32	22	3	67	11	11
New York	16	41	3	39	29	29
New Jersey	15	42	3	33	27	27

CENTRAL DIVISION

Detroit	37	19	2	61	—	—
Atlanta	37	20	3	69	—	—
Milwaukee	36	23	4	63	212	212
Chicago	29	29	2	60	712	712
Indianapolis	28	30	3	59	—	—
Cleveland	23	34	3	49	1412	1412

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Dallas	37	20	3	69	—	—
Utah	34	24	3	71	412	412
Houston	30	26	2	62	612	612
Denver	24	34	4	52	—	—
San Antonio	21	36	3	46	16	16
Sacramento	18	38	3	31	1812	1812

PACIFIC DIVISION

LA Lakers	44	14	2	79	—	—
Portland	36	22	4	61	612	612
Seattle	29	29	2	50	15	15
Golden State	28	31	4	45	1612	1612
Phoenix	23	35	3	39	212	212
LA Clippers	10	44	1	18	32	32

COMMENT

The cowardice championship

The so-called "Table Tennis World Championships" that were staged over the last two weeks in New Delhi have just ended. The Chinese again emerged the most successful.

In reality, however, these were not world championships at all, but merely a local event for some invited friends of the Indian Table Tennis Association.

What was really noteworthy about the event was that it was a competition in cowardice - it would have been better billed as the World Cowardice Championship. Apparently because a "Palestine" contingent was coming, the craven Indian Government refused to grant visas to Israeli players to enter India. Vying with their government in cowardice, the Indian table tennis association then accepted the position that Israel could not compete. Even more shameful was the acceptance by the international table tennis association of this ban against a fully-fledged member country.

We do not know if Israelis would have succeeded in New Delhi. Their success or failure is irrelevant. What is clear is that anybody calling himself or herself a world champion after New Delhi is cheating the world and cheating himself or herself.

The next world championships are slated to take place in Wales. Let us hope that the Welsh summon up enough of the spirit of Owen Hender, instead of the cowardice of the Indians, to make Israelis welcome guests.



POT LUCK. - Larry Wadkins uses his tongue to give added impetus to his putt - and his maneuver works. (Reuters)

GOLF Good times and bad

MIAMI (Reuters). - American Larry Wadkins used an eagle two at the fifth hole to help him shoot a two-under-par 70 and win the Doral Open Golf Tournament by three strokes and the \$180,000 first-place prize.

Seve Ballesteros of Spain was tied at second place with Americans Tom Kite and Don Pooley. Wadkins, who finished with an 11-under par 277 for the tournament, won his 16th PGA event of his 16-year career.

He egged the 371-yard fifth hole when he holed a wedge shot from 91 yards. "It's the first

shot I've holed from the fairway in a long time and it obviously came at the right time," Wadkins said.

PGA title-holder Bob Tway recorded a horrendous 10 on the seventh hole on the way to a 79 and a 296 total. His shot from a fairway bunker came off the lip, back into the sand and struck Tway, costing him a two-shot penalty. His next shot went into another fair way bunker, and his sixth was into a greenside bunker. He came out, and then three-putted.

BASKETBALL

Israeli ref honoured

Post Sports Staff
 Israeli basketball referee Todd Wernick has been accorded a great honour by being chosen to officiate in the final of the Europe Cup Winners Cup. The game will be between Zadar tomorrow night or Zagreb next week - took yet another beating. They were defeated 93-89 by Monaco in the French league.

In Italy, Tracer Milan, almost certain finalists in the European Cup, took a 116-96, drubbing at the hands of Mobilgirgi Caserta.

Real Madrid, however, were in winning form for once and defeated Estudiantes 94-91 in the Spanish league. Maccabi play their last game in Madrid in the European Cup next week.

The long green line

NEW YORK (AP). - It was victory No. 2,000 of a basketball odyssey starring the Boston Celtics.

"It's been a long green line - Red Auerbach, Bill Russell, Frank Ramsey, Bob Cousy, Sam Jones, Dave

European action this week has already begun to sport encouraging signs for Maccabi Tel Aviv. Orthez, the French champs whom Maccabi are hoping will falter in one of their two remaining games - against Zadar tomorrow night or Zagreb next week - took yet another beating. They were defeated 93-89 by Monaco in the French league.

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Real Madrid, however, were in winning form for once and defeated Estudiantes 94-91 in the Spanish league. Maccabi play their last game in Madrid in the European Cup next week.

Cowsen and up to Larry Bird and Robert Parish," coach K.C. Jones said.

Elsewhere, it was New Jersey 105, Chicago 95, Philadelphia 102, Houston 97, Indiana 122, New York 115 in overtime.

CRICKET

Rain helps Kiwis

AUCKLAND (AP). - Four stoppages for rain and bad light restricted play to just 137 minutes on the fourth day of the second Test between New Zealand and the West Indies at Eden Park here yesterday.

In that time, the Kiwis, having been 14 for two, struggled through to 64 for two, with Martin and Jeff Crowe reaching their 50 partnership for the third wicket on the last ball of the day.

"Throughout the four days' play, there have been 12 stoppages for rain and bad light, a total of 476 minutes, including 227 minutes yesterday, having been lost.

SCORES: WI 418-9 declared; NZ 157 and 64-2.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Last-minute scramble in Big Ten

NEW YORK (AP). - While the college basketball tournament season is heating up, it is business as usual in the Big Ten conference with a scramble to the wire for the title.

No. 3 Indiana, No. 6 Purdue and No. 7 Iowa are alive in the Big Ten race, where there's no postseason conference tourney.

Alabama-Birmingham, Penn. State, Xavier (Ohio) and Marshall clinched automatic NCAA tournament berths over the weekend.

No. 14 Illinois' 69-67 victory over

visiting Indiana gave Purdue first place in the Big Ten conference with a 14-2 mark. Purdue beat Ohio State 87-73, while Iowa tripped Michigan 95-85.

Purdue has games remaining this week at Michigan and at Michigan State, Indiana, 14-3, have one game left, at home Saturday against Ohio State and Iowa, 12-4, travel for their final two games this week against Northwestern and Wisconsin, both among the Big Ten lower echelon.

In other games, No. 1 Nevada-Las Vegas defeated Fresno State 79-59, No. 2 North Carolina routed Georgia Tech 92-76, No. 5 Temple tripped George Washington 77-69, and Kan-

sas defeated St. Louis 81-69 for the Midwest Collegiate Conference championship and Marshall defeated Davidson 66-64 in overtime for the Southern Conference title.

Alabama-Birmingham beat No. 1 seed Western Kentucky 72-69, while Penn. topped Yale 75-74 for the Ivy League championship.

Earlier results involving the top twenty: St. John's downed No. 9 Pitt 76-74 to prevent the Panthers from winning the Big East title outright, No. 10 Alabama beat Boston College 65-55, No. 11 Syracuse 87, Boston College 63, No. 17 Duke 65, No. 13 Clemson 59, No. 15 Texas A&M 85, Rice 69, Nebraska 83, No. 16 Kansas 81 in overtime, and No. 19 New Orleans 81, Lamar 65.

CINEMA

JERUSALEM
Jerry Brown: The Outsiders 6; The Sex Pistols: The Great Rock and Roll Swindle 7:30; Apocalypse Now 8:15; Haunted Honeycomb 12 midnight; Cinemascope: War of Wonders 7:15; Un Condamne a Mort c'est Echappe 7; Written on the Wind (small hall); The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers 4:30, 7:15, 9:15; Edinson: Fire Walker 4:30, 7:15; Habiba: A Breed Apart 5:15, 7:15, 9:15; Jerusalem Theatre: Ginger and Fred 6:45, 8:15; Kfir: Some Like It Hot 4:30, 7:15, 9:15; Mitzvah: Bouba 7:15, 9:15; Blue Velvet 4:30, 7:15, 9:15; Orion 1: Crocodile Dundee 4:30, 7:15, 9:15; Orion 2: American Werewolf in London 4:30, 7:15, 9:15; Orion 3: The Untouchables...Bordel 7:15, 9:15; Commando Leopard 4:30, 7:15, 9:15; Orion 4: A Fine Mess 4:30, 7:15, 9:15; The Color Purple 8:30; Orma: Instant Justice 4:30, 7:15, 9:15; Romy: Dreamscape 4:30, 7:15, 9:15; Semadar: My Beautiful Laundrette 7:15, 9:15.

TEL AVIV
Ben Loeb: Love and War 11:15 p.m.; Ben-Yehuda: Some Like It Hot 4:30, 7:15, 9:15; Orion 1: Heartbreak Ridge 4:30, 7:15, 9:15; Orion 2: Joshua Then and Now 7:15, 9:15; Orion 3: Malcolm 7:15, 9:15; Orion 4: Blue Velvet 11:15, 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:15; Orion 5: Ruthless People 11:15, 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:15; Orion 6: Law 4:30, 7:15, 9:15; Orion 7: Top Gun 4:30, 7:15, 9:15; Orion 8: Crocodile Dundee 7:15, 9:15; Orion 9: The Mission 11:15, 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:15; Orion 10: The Decline of the American Empire 11:15, 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:15; Orion 11: Heartbreak Ridge 4:30, 7:15, 9:15; Orion 12: Malcolm 7:15, 9:15; Orion 13: The Untouchables...Bordel 7:15, 9:15; Orion 14: Commando Leopard 4:30, 7:15, 9:15; Orion 15: The Color Purple 8:30; Orma: Instant Justice 4:30, 7:15, 9:15; Romy: Dreamscape 4:30, 7:15, 9:15; Semadar: My Beautiful Laundrette 7:15, 9:15.

ARMY
 8:30 Open Your Eyes - songs, information
 7:07 Morning Supplement - with Eitan Lifshitz
 8:00 Good Morning Israel
 8:05 The Morning - with Eitan Lifshitz
 10:05 Coffee Break
 11:05 Right Now - with Rafi Rashid
 12:05 Daily Meeting - with Orly Yaniv
 18:00 What's Doing - with Erez Tal
 16:08 941 Travel North
 16:20 Four in the Afternoon
 17:00 Evening News
 18:05 Economics Magazine
 19:05 Hebrew songs
 20:05 Military Literature Magazine
 21:00 Mabot - TV newscast
 21:30 University on the Air
 22:05 Popular songs
 23:05 The 24th Hour
 00:05 Night Birds - songs, chat

Economic parleys don't accomplish much

Summits: A lot of talk, little action

LONDON (Reuters). - The food is usually lovely and the hosts are always charming. But when ministers and diplomats meet to hammer out international economic agreements, the results are at best mixed, economists say.

That is why many are fairly sceptical on whether the recent Paris agreement by the influential Group of Five industrial nations and Canada will really stop the slide of the dollar.

Based on the recent history of government efforts to control prices in global markets - whether the exchange rate of the dollar, or the price of oil or tin - most believe that last month's agreement will be little more than a stopgap.

"International agreements work if the market is with them, but if market forces are against them, they have only limited effect," says Steven Bell, chief economist at Investment Bankers Morgan Grenfell and Co. "Major market trends tend not to be reversed until there's real pain. Not many government officials are willing to agree to that."

In these days of debt crisis for

many Third World producers of basic commodities and of massive trade imbalances between major industrial nations, it is harder than ever to reach an international currency or commodity price agreement?

"Absolutely," replies D. Sykes Wilford, a Chase Manhattan Bank vice president.

"There does seem to be more of the beggar-thy-neighbour policies now," says Wilford, a member of the so-called "shadow G-7," a group of economists who monitor the international monetary policy initiatives of the Group of Seven nations.

The latest agreement on the dollar makes many economists wonder if the U.S. is ready to accept the pain of slashing a massive budget deficit, just as they had wondered if every Opec member was ready to accept the pain of sharply reduced steady oil prices.

Commodity-price agreements, from Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries to the International Tin Council, "have on the whole been very disappointing," says Mar-

tin Wolf, director of studies at London's trade policy research centre.

"They are always vulnerable to one country breaking away to pursue its own national interest... and there is more of this when countries are in distress," Wolf said.

"The underlying problem is that producers tend to agree to fix prices at levels higher than the price that is sustainable in the long run," Wolf explains. "The result is a glut and the collapse of the agreement as prices fall."

Agreements to maintain stability in money markets are a bit different - "basically because countries can print as much money as they like, but they can't do that with a commodity," says Wolf.

But economists say they don't seem to work much better, because currency agreements often require painful domestic policies - in the case of last month's Paris pact, economic steps that Japan and West Germany fear will rekindle inflation. The U.S. basically came to the meeting saying the dollar would keep sliding unless those steps to stimu-

late their economies, so that they absorb more imports, were made.

The massive U.S. trade deficit had to be brought down to more manageable levels than last year's \$170 billion, Washington said.

The reason is simple - for auto workers in Detroit and textile workers in the Carolinas, that trade deficit represents a real fear for their jobs, and that fear is pushing their congressmen to draft legislation to limit imports.

And, while the U.S. trade deficit does not threaten the stability of the world economy, protectionism would.

The question, economists say, is whether Washington is as frightened of protectionism as the Germans and Japanese.

And it is the answer to that question, they say, which will really determine the success of the Paris meeting.

At the moment, says a senior executive at a Japanese bank's London arm, "We're just waiting to see who's going to be the first to start shorting [selling] the dollar to test the resolve of the central bankers."

BANKING ON IT/Pinhas Landau

Bino's bombshell

In line with the shifting banking scene, this column has also shifted, from Wednesdays to Tuesdays. The agenda, however, is unchanged - developments in the people and products of the financial services sector, primarily, but by no means exclusively among the commercial banks.

The inevitable focus of today's column, though, has got to be the latest Bino bombshell. The "Instant Money" scheme that Leumi announced last Friday deserves close attention, less for what it contains - although that is important too - than for what it portends.

In brief, the terms of the scheme are as follows: The client begins saving in the regular Leumi "koah tesuah" index-linked scheme, which runs for 24 to five years and offers index-linked interest of up to 4.25 per cent, either through monthly payments or through lump-sum deposits. As soon as a borrower reaches NIS 5,000 in deposits (no small amount, this) he is eligible for a loan, which can be obtained three months after opening a savings account. This right remains open until three months prior to the savings' final maturity.

The flamboyance and attitude of calculated risk in 'Instant Money' - the wafer-thin-profit margins and the transferability feature - are both vintage Bino.

The loan has two features, which make the whole scheme both attractive and innovative. Although the loan is to a maximum of only half the value of the accrued savings - including deposits, interest and linkage - it is given for up to four years at an interest rate of only 4.25 per cent, fully-linked. This is barely one-third of the standard rate charged for index-linked loans. Secondly, the right to the loan is transferable by the saver, with the bank's approval, to anyone else he nominates.

While the low interest rate is a special offer, rather than a deliberate attempt to break the market in index-linked loans, the introduction of transferable rights to a loan - in effect a tradable instrument in the form of a private call option to obtain linked funds at a fixed price - is a conceptual breakthrough. Others, including the banks, the Bank of Israel, and the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, have been talking vaguely about introducing options. Now Bino has made the first real move, although most people will not appreciate for some time what they have in their hands. In any event there will be no formal market in these loan rights.

In terms of marketing and sophistication of consumer banking products, "Instant Money" is therefore an important milestone. It should be stressed, however, that the basic structure of the scheme, involving the hybrid format of a savings scheme with a loan offer attached, was invented by Bank Hapoalim late last year. On December 10, this column described Hapoalim's first venture in this field, which was aimed at people intending to buy or replace a car, noting that the bank "was proclaiming it a novelty in the Israeli savings market."

It must have worked, because Hapoalim followed it up with a whole family of schemes aimed at specific saving targets, such as higher education, vacations and so on. This blossomed into the "Shekel for Shekel" campaign, which has been in full swing for several weeks. This campaign centres on the concept that if the saver has a monetary target, he should save half the sum, and the bank will then give him a loan for the other half.

This concept of saving for spending was obviously a good idea whose time had come, as far as the Israeli public is concerned. The consumer boom has not let up. Money is flowing in abundance to every form of spending, and saving - especially for several years - is much less fashionable than it once was. But if you can persuade people that they are saving for a good cause, namely to be spent on a car or a trip to the Far East, then you may yet get them to deposit some money with you.

Just how successful this strategy was may be ascertained from Bino's response, since imitation is the sincerest form of flattery. Naturally, the old master of saving scheme innovations could not merely mimic Hapoalim all down the line. The flamboyance and attitude of calculated risk involved in "Instant Money" - the wafer-thin profit margins and the originality of the transferability feature are both vintage Bino.

The wider implications of Leumi's latest move are even more fascinating. No one expected Bino to be able to start firing off new business initiatives only two weeks after his abrupt transfer to Leumi, and the hints that there are other tricks up his sleeve will do nothing to enthrall Leumi's rivals.

It would appear that Bino discovered very quickly that, of the domestic divisions at Leumi, the banking division that deals with retail customers is the most imaginative and aggressive. That must have suited him fine, since this area is where he made his name at First International Bank. He will find willing lieutenants in the division head, Yedidia Greenberg, and the head of the private-customer sector, Uri Galili. This troika will be the spearhead of Leumi's push to regain a dominant role in the crucial area of individual customers, where the bank's image and credibility was worst hit by the Leumiagate scandal. Bino's own tendency is to answer the critics with actions, rather than promises of better behaviour in the future.

But recovering the No. 1 position will be no easy matter for Leumi. Hapoalim has shown that its more cautious, but very solid approach can bring good results. Hapoalim's chief executive officer, Amram Sivan, is now firmly in the saddle and well advanced in translating his ideas into reality. He also doesn't face the pressure and urgency to deliver that Bino does. He, and Arye Abend, who won his spurs running Hapoalim's New York operations, and the experienced Avi Hassman, who is in charge of customer deposits and savings schemes, will be tough opposition for Bino and his henchmen.

What is perhaps most remarkable is that in this arena of innovative retail banking, it is the big two, Hapoalim and Leumi, who are slugging it out, while the others are almost nowhere to be seen. Discount remains wedded to its love of electronic gadgetry, and its only important new idea was the "Discount Extra" consumer loan scheme, which sparked very mixed responses from professional opinion. But its commercial success remains to be seen.

Most amazing of all is the quiescence of First International, Bino's old stamping ground. Other than extending its opening hours, that bank has done nothing noteworthy for a long time. Indeed, as long ago as October 1 last year, this column was remarking that "the absence of the First International Bank from this area of competition is somewhat remarkable, given its aggressive record." That was when Bino was still there, if only as non-executive chairman. Now that he's not only gone, but working against First International, the outlook for the former star performer of the Israeli banking scene seems increasingly bleak.

Dollar squeezes German exports

BONN (Reuters). - Profits on a range of West German exports from fast cars to fast shoes is being squeezed under the weight of the sinking dollar.

The U.S. currency has fallen nearly 50 per cent against the Deutschmark in the past two years, driving up the price abroad of West German goods in fiercely competitive world markets.

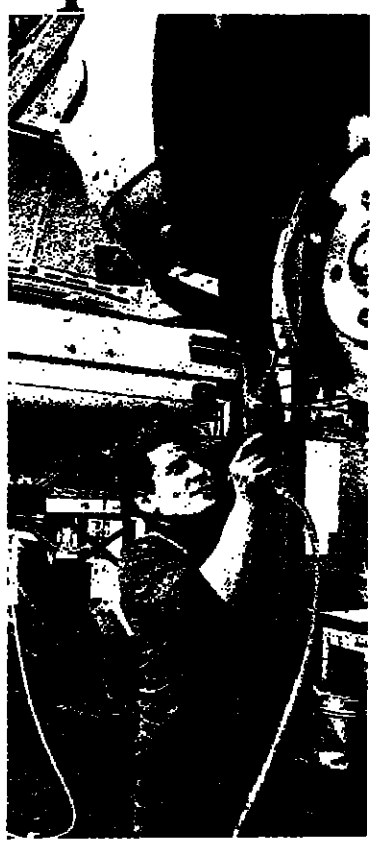
Puma sports shoes, for example, used to be a good runner for West German investors.

Last year's flotation of shares in Puma AG Rudolf Dassler Sport, backed by an advertising contract with tennis super-star Boris Becker, was a stock market success story. The shares rocketed, peaking at the equivalent of \$860, five times their \$172 issue price. But today Puma shares fetch barely over \$227.

The problems of Puma reflect those of countless companies in West Germany's export-orientated economy.

Volkswagen, Europe's leading car builder, reported figures for the first nine months of 1986, which disappointed markets. Thyssen AG, West Germany's biggest steel and engineering group, has said the dollar is becoming a "disturbing factor."

West Germany's big chemical



An Audi production line (David Rubinger)

firms have also said they will have to fight to maintain market share.

Puma's difficulties on the American market were highlighted last month when it announced that major shareholders were being forced to make an injection of capital to stave off losses in 1986 caused by miserable U.S. business. Blaming increased competition and the dollar's fall, it said sales to the U.S. nosedived by 67 per cent last year to \$50 million.

The markets reacted swiftly and more than 25 per cent was wiped off Puma's market value overnight. The impact on Porsche takes another form. Demand for its luxury sports cars in the U.S. is such that even price increases last year did nothing to stop the rush to be seen driving Germany's fastest make.

But higher sales, and prices, in the U.S. were not enough to hold Porsche's results. Net profit dropped 38 per cent to \$42m. In 1985/86 and the company has predicted a further deterioration this year.

London brokers Phillips and Drew note that "Porsche's earnings remain uncomfortably exposed to the Deutschmark-dollar relationship."

VW has signalled further increases in U.S. prices this year after four rises in 1986. It has said the

dollar's fall was partly responsible for a 13 per cent drop in profit in the first nine months of 1986.

Thyssen, as well, has blamed a 22 per cent drop in sales so far in the current business year on the dollar.

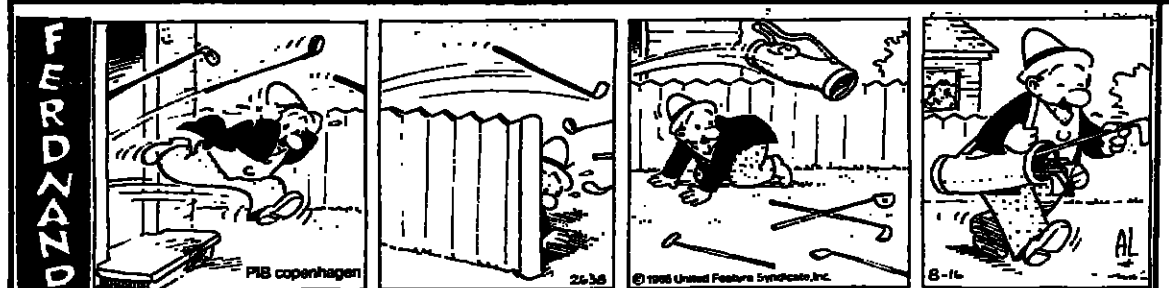
And even Siemens, despite a cash mountain of more than \$11 billion and a 1985/86 profit of nearly \$833m, seems to be feeling the pinch. "One thing is clear," says company chief Karlheinz Kaske, "the more the dollar falls, the harder it is to make a profit."

The decline of the dollar is worrying West German officials, although the government is sceptical about political pacts aimed at calming foreign exchange markets, although last week's Group of Six meeting has kept the dollar trading in a narrow range this week.

The Bonn Economics Ministry's latest economic report says external factors are imposing a considerable burden on the domestic economy.

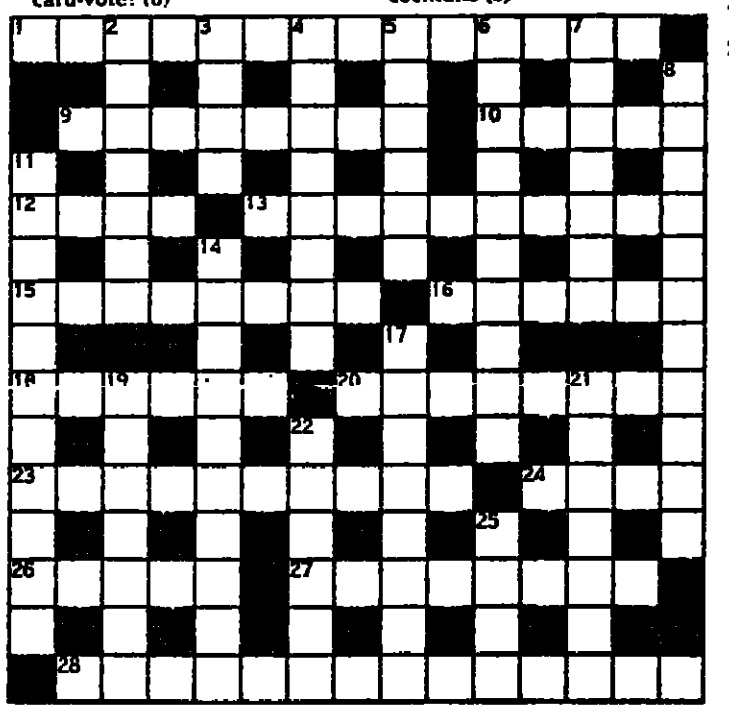
"The rise of the mark - especially against the U.S. dollar - has led to loss of market share for West German companies abroad," it says.

Economics Ministry experts have gone further in an unpublished report, saying that an official target of 2.5 per cent 1987 gross national product growth is becoming increasingly difficult to realize.



CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- Run-of-the-mill allotments that ought to pay dividends (8,6)
 - Rousing game on the coast of Holland (8)
 - Put a question about the balance (5)
 - Improvise a tune for an alluring female (4)
 - Reputedly not what Socrates was by Xenippus (10)
 - Getting to feel the pain again, apparently (8)
 - Illicitly acquired collection of pound notes? (6)
 - A script about our undercover affairs (6)
 - Cut capers by juggling with card-votes? (8)
- DOWN**
- Unreasonable demands for lanky monks? (4,6)
 - West End figure making resentful come-back (4)
 - Jack's other name for the play (5)
 - A sand-glass, for instance, for a sardough (3-5)
 - Military control centre for personnel requiring surgical treatment? (10,4)
 - Upset cover girl creating a difficult situation (7)
 - A dandy feature of China's heritage (4)
 - Giving a ruling about two gin cocktails (8)



Yesterday's Solution

ACROSS

- 1 Come up, 4 Pans, 8 Tent, 9 General, 10 Outrage, 11 Ohio, 12 Elk, 14 Door, 15 Item, 18 Spa, 21 Rock, 23 Digital, 25 Long leg, 26 Ounce, 27 Yield, 28 Centre.

DOWN

- 1 Cotton, 2 Maestro, 3 Upstairs, 4 Pony, 5 North, 6 Seldom, 7 Agree, 13 Kid glove, 16 Extinct, 17 Chilly, 19 Adage, 20 Fleece, 22 Case, 24 Glad.

QUICK CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 8 Stern (anag.)
 - 4 Ecclezie
 - 9 Firm
 - 10 Outshone
 - 11 Wall-painting
 - 14 Ocean
 - 16 Copper
 - 17 Threates
 - 18 Attempt
 - 20 Cont
 - 24 Lead and grating
 - 25 Grow-up
 - 26 Sane
 - 27 Frighten
- DOWN**
- 1 Door-keeper
 - 2 Amusing
 - 3 Cornfield flower
 - 4 Supplementary building
 - 6 Persuasive
 - 7 Pest
 - 12 Scattered
 - 13 Bravely
 - 14 Prescribed
 - 15 Girl's name
 - 19 Ceremony
 - 21 Lively
 - 22 Sham attack
 - 23 Booth

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Netanya: Laniado

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Elit 7233 Rehovot 561333

Haifa 512233 Safed 30333

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Kupat Holim Information Centre Tel. 03-433300, 433600 Sunday-Thursday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Bankers show low interest in beauty pageant

By KEN SCHACHTER

For The Jerusalem Post

TEL AVIV. - Bank employees are supposed to be good at figures, but now the public will have a chance to see if their figures are good.

A beauty contest will be held tonight at Yad Eliahu sports stadium. But some bank employees in Haifa say their union's involvement in the pageant just doesn't add up.

Why, they ask, did the union at Barclay's Discount Bank send around a circular inviting women to sign up when it should be tending to union matters like winning pay increases and ensuring that women get equal employment opportunities?

"It's a horrible thing to present to bank workers, especially when conditions are so bad," said one long-time Barclay's employee. "When they cut down staff, the first people to go were women."

So irate were the bank employees, that they enlisted the services of Eshah L'Eshah (Woman to Woman), a Haifa-based organization that promotes equal rights for women. Eshah L'Eshah, in turn, wrote to the union, the prime minister's adviser on the status of women and is organizing a placard-waving protest outside the stadium.

Lani Ravin, coordinator at Eshah L'Eshah, said Barclay's hires a lot of women, but few are elevated to management.

"In our letter to the union, we said you would be better off if you spent your time and money trying to help women workers," Ravin said.

"There are a lot of women workers at the bank, but they're all at the lower echelon."

Dr. Nitzia Shapira-Libai, the prime minister's adviser on women's issues, voiced support for the protest, writing that the contest should be stopped unless there's "an alternative beauty contest for the men."

Efforts to contact bank union officials were unsuccessful.

Ravin denounced beauty contests in general as a form of exploitation of women, but bank workers particularly peeved by the union's participation.

"The women who work at the bank were upset about it, said this is very degrading, and came to us," Ravin said.

Said one Barclay's employee, "They keep boasting that they have three women managers at Barclay's. It's like the blacks. They woke up to their plight and women have to, too."

TRADE. - A Chinese trade mission arrived in Oman yesterday on the second leg of a three-nation Arab Gulf tour, including also Kuwait and the UAE, aimed at boosting trade cooperation.

Iraq secures loan rescheduling pact

BAHRAIN (Reuters). - War-

battered Iraq has secured agreement from Western banks to defer its repayments on a \$500 million loan to conserve dwindling reserves of hard currency, bankers said here yesterday.

The accord comes after five months of negotiations and will relieve some of the strain on Iraq's economy imposed by its 6 1/2-year-old war with Iran.

Bankers estimate Iraq's debt at about \$50 billion, but at least half is in form of loans from its Gulf Arab supporters, particularly Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

The accord thrashed out with

banks will stretch out most payments on the \$500m. loan by up to two years. Failure to agree could have prompted the banks to call Iraq into default.

The state-owned Rafidain Bank, which took out the credit in 1983, told the 37 creditor banks last September it could not meet the final four instalments totalling \$285m. As negotiations began, Rafidain failed to make the first of those payments for \$71.25m. due on September 29.

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Latest step to save giant builder

Solel Boneh, Shikun Ovdim merger

By KEN SCHACHTER
For The Jerusalem Post
TEL AVIV. - Ailing building giant Solel Boneh will merge with the Shikun Ovdim contracting company, according to a tentative plan announced yesterday by Hevrat Ha'ovdim, the Histrut holding company.

The action is the latest in a series of moves to rescue the financially troubled Solel Boneh.

Danny Rosolio, secretary general of Hevrat Ha'ovdim, which controls both concerns, outlined the plan to the managing committee yesterday. He is expected to hold a meeting this month with the committee at which he will provide a more detailed proposal and seek the panel's approval.

Shikun Ovdim, Solel Boneh and Bank Hapoalim, Solel Boneh's major creditor, agreed to the merger yesterday. A Hevrat Ha'ovdim spokeswoman said the company had hoped to delay an announcement until the deal was sealed, but rumours in the building community forced the premature disclosure.

The proposed merger would include Solel Boneh International, which executes major engineering projects around the world.

Among the biggest questions surrounding the deal is the new company's structure. Former health minister Mordechai Gur was named chairman of Solel Boneh just two months ago, replacing Moshe Sanbar. Rafy Edry is general manager of Shikun Ovdim.

In past years, there was discussion of merging the two building concerns, but Solel Boneh rejected the proposal since it specializes in major engineering projects such as airfields, power plants, bridges and roads. Shikun Ovdim, meanwhile, is primarily a residential builder. Since the government cut back on its support of major projects, however, Solel Boneh has shifted its focus more toward housing.

Severe financial troubles have forced Solel Boneh to slash its workforce from 15,000 two years ago to 6,000 today. Some 1,500 additional layoffs are planned. Still, the company remains Israel's largest builder, accounting for 10 per cent of industrial construction last year. Shikun Ovdim employs just 210.

At the end of 1986, Solel Boneh sold its Dvir real estate subsidiary to Bank Hapoalim in an effort to reduce its debt load. In September, Solel Boneh reached agreement with the banks and the government on a bailout package. The plan called for Hevrat Ha'ovdim to invest \$80m. in Solel Boneh; the government to guarantee \$80m. in loans with Bank Hapoalim and Bank Leumi; the sale of some of the company's assets, and continued layoffs.

Concerning the leaks, which forced the disclosure, the Hevrat Ha'ovdim spokeswoman said "Everyone in Israel was talking about it, so we had to come out with it. Who will be on the board of directors, who will be the chairman? It's unknown."

Imports of consumer durables fall

By AVI TEMKIN
Post Economic Reporter

Signs of a possible slowdown in the imports of consumer durables were evident last month, figures released yesterday by the Finance Ministry showed. The Treasury statistics showed that imports of private vehicles and household appliances were between 25 and 45 per cent lower in February, compared with the previous month.

According to the Treasury figures, 2,800 new cars were imported last month, compared with 3,600 in January, a 28 per cent decline. Imports of other durables, such as video cassette recorders or dishwashers plummeted some 45 per cent, the figures showed.

Despite the downturn in imports on a month-on-month basis, the Treasury statistics also showed that the purchases of foreign durable goods are still well above their levels of a year earlier. The figures showed that 200 more cars were imported last month than in February 1986, while imports of television sets were 60 per cent higher and those of dishwashers 30 per cent higher.

Soaring imports of consumer durables, which are heavily taxed, combined with rising revenue from income taxes to produce a surge in government tax revenue for the last 10 months of the fiscal year, which ends March 31. According to the figures published yesterday by the Finance Ministry, overall tax revenue totalled NIS 15.5 billion during the April 1986 - February 1987 period, an increase of 11 per cent from the same period in the previous fiscal year.

PROFIT. - Imperial Chemical Industries (ICI) last week turned in the biggest pre-tax profit ever recorded by a British manufacturing company at \$1.56 billion.

An ICI statement accompanying 1986 figures said group profit rose by \$160 million, up 11 per cent on 1985.

Taiwanese, Israeli firm in talks on PC plant here

By DORON PELY
Special To The Jerusalem Post

An Israeli high technology company, NCN Computers, Ltd., is negotiating with Copan Corp., one of Taiwan's major personal computer manufacturers, for the construction of a jointly owned production and assembly plant in Israel.

The factory, at a yet to be determined site, will produce and assemble 30,000 IBM-compatible personal computers annually, all for export to Western Europe, according to Ya'acov Merila, NCN's general manager.

The proposed plant will employ 70 Israeli workers under the supervision of a Taiwanese staff. Copan will invest \$700,000 out of a total estimated construction cost of \$2 million.

The Taiwanese manufacturer is interested in moving a production site closer to its European target market.

Israelis, Americans talk over satellite

A round-the-world dialogue

By SIMON LOUISSON
For The Jerusalem Post

TEL AVIV. - Representatives of Israeli academia and industry yesterday participated in the first one-on-one hook-up to the American satellite television service, to discuss with U.S. experts the relationship of universities and industry.

The satellite dialogue was made possible by Worldnet, a global network run by the U.S. Information Agency that broadcasts two hours daily to U.S. embassies and certain cable television networks in the U.S. and Europe. The U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv only received its satellite receiving dish this year and although Israel has participated in other programmes, this marked the first time participants could view the picture as well.

The hour-long programme followed a question-and-answer format with the selected Israeli experts asking questions of two U.S. ex-

perts, Robert White, president of the National Academy of Engineering, and John Moore, deputy director of the National Science Foundation, on the U.S. experience in university-industry links.

White said there was a growing realization from industry, and local government that employment opportunities and economic growth are integrally tied to high technology development and that this could best be fostered through universities and technical institutes. In 10 years, direct contributions to universities by industry have grown from \$84 million to \$370m. annually, he noted.

Once an area of common interest had been established between the industry and institution there was "excellent cooperation."

At the state and local level the trend is for universities to establish incubator facilities for small start-up companies. There is also an industry

Cooperation Research Programme which makes grants for centres facilitating start-up companies. After five years the companies must be self-supporting or close.

Research and development is encouraged mainly through tax incentives. The recent reform of the U.S. tax laws extended the tax credits available and added one for basic research in universities, said Moore.

White said another powerful new tool for encouraging commercial development was the recent legislative change which allows the tertiary institutions to acquire the patent rights of its faculty staff. However, he added that the blurring of the borders between industry and universities was the source of much debate with questions raised about dual loyalties, and what the university's role should be.

Prof. Zehev Tadmor, of the Neuman Institute at the Technion, said it was a "fascinating experience"

DEM JANKU ON TRIAL

(Continued from Page One)

whether it had not been in his heart to help the victims being herded into the gas chambers. "How could I help? I had no contact with them," the witness replied.

At this stage prosecutor Michael Shaked intervened, calling the question provocative, but Justice Levin let it stand.

Rosenberg continued: "I could not even shout at the men. If I had shouted... Don't ask me in this manner, what could I tell them? Not to go? The biggest anti-Semites never asked me such questions."

"Ask him why I didn't try to help," Rosenberg then shouted, pointing at the accused. "I would have been thrown into a pit of blood."

O'Connor then said soothingly: "I'm as delicate as I can be. I've also asked my client many questions over the years."

At this juncture Justice Levin noticed some reaction on the part of John Demjanjuk, and he asked O'Connor whether he wanted to question his client about this.

O'Connor to the bench: "This is an unusual request, but I'll ask him. I have nothing to hide."

Levin: "I know you can't have heard what I said because of your [simultaneous translation] headset."

O'Connor, who seemed shaken by the development, appeared to fight for time to compose himself. He told the bench that he would approach his Israeli associate, Yoram Sheftel, who sits directly in front of the accused and as a result would have heard Demjanjuk's remark most clearly. "I want him [Sheftel] to say it. I don't want it to come out of my mouth," O'Connor said.

Sheftel then said that Demjanjuk had pronounced the Hebrew words *ata shakran* (you are a liar). This was apparently in response to Rosenberg's shouting at him that he would have been thrown into a pit of blood, if he had tried to help the people about to be gassed.

It seems that Demjanjuk, in his year in custody here, has picked up a few words of Hebrew, beyond the *baker tov* (good morning) which he often says as he enters the court room.

O'Connor explained to the court that his client's words "only show that he is human."

Levin: "If the accused wants to speak, he'll have a chance for that later on."

In the moments building up to Demjanjuk's breaking his silence, he seemed slightly agitated and his entire head was flushed. This also seemed to be the first time in the nine days of the trial that the defence appeared to be ruffled.

"Now that this dramatic moment is over I'll call a recess," Levin said. Demjanjuk was seen speaking to his son, John Jr., as he left the courtroom for the half-hour recess.

The entire day, which was extended beyond the usual 6:30 p.m. closing hour, was taken up with O'Connor's cross-examination of Rosenberg. The defence scored some points when it showed that Rosenberg had made conflicting statements about his age, at one time saying he had been 35 at a certain period, and at another saying he had been 40. At one point O'Connor asked him whether he had ever

stated that he was 18 when he got to Treblinka, when in fact he had been 21.

"If age is that important to you, I apologize," Rosenberg said at one point. To this, Justice Levin replied that "you may not care about exactitude in dates, but the defence does."

O'Connor then asked the rhetorical question of whether ageing and getting closer to death does not lessen "exactitude in words?"

Establishing the exact date of Rosenberg's arrival at Treblinka took much of the day. Rosenberg had said to various investigators over the years that he had arrived at the camp on the eve of Rosh Hashana, the Jewish New Year, 1942. There were questions about whether this had been in August or September, or even in June or July.

At one point Rosenberg complained about the repeated questioning on this point. Justice Levin reminded him: "The defence counsel is only doing his duty towards his client. Please don't argue with him - or with the bench."

There was more questioning about the time that Rosenberg had flown to Cleveland to testify at Demjanjuk's denaturalization hearing. O'Connor also wanted to know about the annual memorial meetings the survivors used to hold at the Nahlat Binyamin cemetery, and what was discussed on these occasions. These questions seemed to touch on possible collusion between the survivors prior to giving testimony.

At one point O'Connor was slow to grasp that Moishe was Eliyahu Rosenberg's second given name, rather than a nickname. "We're patient," Levin said to him, "but if the witness tells you that these two names were given to him at his *bris* [circumcision] there is no need to ask him again. At the end of this trial you will know many things you didn't know before."

In the late afternoon, O'Connor raised a comment made by Rosenberg the previous day, suggesting that Nazi-hunter Tuvia Friedman, who is scheduled to testify for the defence, had received some form of payment from O'Connor. Rosenberg modified his statement and said that he had not meant money, but other kind of compensation.

Levin: "You have no real knowledge of the facts?"

Rosenberg: "No, I had no desire to insult Mr. O'Connor."

O'Connor then said that he wanted to compliment the audience for its conduct in the trial.

Tel Aviv Stock Exchange

MARKET STATISTICS

Indices:		Turnovers:	
General Share Index	122.64 +0.06%	Shares - total	NIS 21,771,600
Non-Bank Index	147.75 +0.01%	Arrangement	NIS 2,851,900
Arrangement	106.41 +0.10%	Non-bank	NIS 18,919,700
Insurance	129.52 +1.18%	Bonds - total	NIS 6,386,200
Commerce, Services	139.22 +0.38%	Dollar-linked	NIS 5,186,700
Real Estate	138.07 +0.69%	Dollar-linked	NIS 1,200,600
Industrials	149.25 +0.20%	Treasury Bills	NIS 7,242,600
Textiles	139.15 +0.98%	Share Movements:	
Metals	140.13 +0.35%	Advances	129 (263)
Electronics	152.90 +0.33%	of which 5% +	16 (107)
Chemicals	147.22 +0.85%	"buyers only"	1 (2)
Industrial Invest.	177.75 +0.25%	Declines	146 (34)
Investment Cos.	170.63 +0.40%	of which 5% +	30 (10)
General Bond Index	106.25 +0.01%	"sellers only"	3 (1)
Index-linked Bonds	110.53 +0.04%	Unchanged	118 (91)
Fully-linked	111.79 +0.09%	Trading Halt	28 (33)
Partially-linked	108.56 +0.25%	Bond Market Trends:	
Dollar-linked Bonds	105.98 +0.35%	Index-linked:	3% fully-linked Mixed to 1%
Short-term 0-2 yrs	107.71 +0.09%		
Medium-term 2-5 yrs	109.30 +0.13%		
Long-term 5+ yrs	111.61 +0.06%		

SELECTED PRICE QUOTATIONS

Name	Price	Volume	%	1000NIS change
Commercial Banks				
(not part of "arrangement")				
Maritime	1845	4091	-	-
General non-arr.	23500	603	-	-
First Int'l	5200	2763	-	-
FIBI	5300	3298	-	-
Commercial Banks				
(part of "arrangement")				
IDB	90500	445	+1.1	-
Union 0.1	67500	113	-	-
Discount	114000	140	+0.2	-
Mizrahi	36900	1353	+1.0	-
Hapoalim	60700	1731	-	-
General A	155400	11	-0.1	-
Leumi 0.1	30850	1486	-0.5	-
Fin. Trade	51000	2	-	-
Mortgage Banks				
Leumi Mort. r	10300	382	+1.0	-
Dev. Mort.	4250	1499	-	-
Tefahot	24350	61	-1.0	-
Merav r	8610	85	+0.1	-
Financial Institutions				
Agrie Co.	no trading			
Ind. Dev. DD	no trading			
Chal Leasing 0.1	28350	3	-	-
Insurance				
Ararat 0.1 r	1740	737	-2.0	-
Hassaneh r	438	28898	-	-
Phoenix 0.1	852	5.01	-	-
Hamishar	734	136	-	-
Menorah 1	2780	65	-3.5	-
Sahar r	9400	1842	-	-
Zion Hold. 1	13860	14	+5.0	-
Trade & Services				
Moir Ezra	1380	3287	-1.2	-
Supersol 2	11000	1118	-2.7	-
Delek r	5754	8905	+0.0	-
Lightage	21750	75	+2.5	-
Cold Storage	1190	3263	-	-
Dan Hotels	1782	257	-1.0	-
Yarden Hotel	2762	136	-0.6	-
Hilon 1	no trading			
Team 1	1025	2838	-	-
Real Estate, Building and Agriculture				
Azorim	1199	45136	+4.3	-
Eilon	480	15282	-4.0	-
Africa Int. 0.1	52300	289	+1.0	-
Dankner	7980	851	-	-
Prop. & Bldg.	3751	2061	-	-
Bay Side 0.1	5000	2183	+1.0	-
ILDC r	85300	250	+0.9	-
Rassco r	8421	285	-10.0	-
Mehadrin	5160	514	+3.2	-
Hadarim	2095	5951	+1.2	-
Industrials				
Dubek b	6815	3334	-2.7	-
Pr-Ze 1	no trading			
Sumitomo	18500	515	-	-
Elita	2600	945	-	-
Adgar	no trading			
Argaman r	16310	110	+1.9	-
Delta G 1	4607	924	-	-
Maquette 1	5115	104	-	-
Eagle 1	27588	89	+1.5	-
Polgar	1550	1687	+1.8	-
Schoeller	20038	285	+2.0	-
Rogovin	3100	1486	-	-
Ordon 0.1 r	9120	287	-1.3	-
Is. Can Co. 1	4550	2185	-	-
Zion Cables	2690	731	-	-
Pecker Steel	23000	212	+2.2	-
Elbit	621000	19	-0.2	-
Investment Companies				
IDB Dev. r	9400	2155	-1.1	-
Elaron	5398	1732	-0.0	-
Alik 1	294	14360	-6.1	-
Israel Corp. 1	18800	945	-2.8	-
Wolfson r	132000	1	-0.4	-
Hapoalim Inv.	11390	566	-0.9	-
Discount Invest.	6130	5136	-	-
Mizrahi r	32410	60	+3.5	-
Clal 10	1730	7784	-	-
Landeco 0.1	2955	132	-2.0	-
Pama 0.1	12000	216	-	-
Oil Exploration				
Petrol Expl.	27800	49	-3.0	-
J.O.E.L.	5213	2363	-0.0	-

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State of Israel

Ministry of Education

Required

Elementary and high school

ENGLISH TEACHERS

for 1987 school year

Qualifications: Candidates who studied in Israel:

English teacher's certificate (for teaching in Elementary and Junior High School) B.A. and English teacher's certificate (for teaching in High School)

Candidates who studied abroad: teacher's certificate, academic degree (and mandatory completion of courses in Hebrew subjects, English Methodology, Applied Linguistics)

Candidates with only partial qualifications will be required to take concentrated completion courses given by the Ministry of Education and Culture. Candidates who are not native English speakers will be required to take an English proficiency test.

Candidates should apply to:

English Language Division

Ministry of Education and Culture

Jerusalem, 91911

m78-06-02

Settlements budget approved in Knesset

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Knesset Finance Committee quickly approved yesterday an NIS 80 million aid package for local authorities, including some NIS 10m. to

THE JERUSALEM POST

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An aspirin, Mr. Nissim!

CONDITIONS in the paralyzed government hospitals were yesterday described as varying between the impossible and the ghastly. But today the strike is entering its ninth day, with no end yet in sight.

The finance minister will not allow the Padeh Committee to continue its consideration of the striking workers' demands for equalization of their pay with that of workers in Kupat Holim hospitals. But the striking workers are not cleaning and maintaining their hospitals, for the second time in two months, because the committee has been dragging its feet mercilessly in considering their demands. They will go back to work, their leaders say, if the committee promises to wind up its "consideration" without further delay — and grant them one hundred new shekels by way of advance for January and February.

No dice, replies the finance minister. The unauthorized strike must first be terminated.

But it seems that the abysmally underpaid workers have already given the Padeh Committee enough time to solve all the government hospitals' pay problems for the next decade. It took the committee two whole months to settle eight of the 15 outstanding issues — five by saying Yes to the workers, three by saying No to them — and leaving a full seven still to be thrashed out. That it should take the committee perhaps another two months to settle the remaining unsettled issues, would truly be unconscionable.

The cries of elderly patients in unattended geriatric hospitals yesterday must have pierced even the stone hearts of mindless bureaucrats.

Yesterday the Knesset Labour and Social Welfare Committee endorsed the strikers' modest interim demands as a condition for ending the strike. They have, it is true, violated court orders, and there must be order in labour relations as in everything else. But obedience to the law need not take absolute precedence over plain commonsense and elementary humanity.

Moreover, within the frame of reference that determines the government's position there is enough room to find a sane way out of the strike.

That position is governed by a firm resolve not to permit a strike to bring about the collapse of the policy of wage restraint. Submitting to the hospital strikers would, it is feared, trigger more demands throughout the economy, and ultimately renew the inflationary spiral, undoing whatever gains have been achieved in reforming the economy during the past two years.

This governmental resolve is sensible and understandable. Yet at the same time, there is also recognition that the striking hospital administrative workers are indeed underpaid. And there is a willingness to adjust their pay — that does not have a spiral effect.

With or without a Padeh committee, it would not seem beyond the capacity even of this bifurcated government, with the help of the Histadrut, to get the message across to the strikers in a credible way.

The longer the government is incapable of doing that, the more it fuels the grievances inherent in the entire health care system. Those grievances, which include, but also transcend, the issue of wages, cannot be solved by strikes. They can only be addressed by more fundamental reform.

Neither this government nor its predecessors have had the will or wit for such fundamental surgery. Thus for the foreseeable future there will be no relief. Even the government doctors, who are demanding a health care "authority", must, unfortunately, understand that.

The weary and preoccupied ministers, from Mr. Shamir down, do. But precisely because they recognize their own limitations on this subject, they should put out the strike fire quickly and not let it spread further to envelop the entire health system in chaos.

SOVIET

(Continued from Page One)

The specific number of invitations sent monthly by Israelis in response to requests remains secret, but since 1980, when the Kremlin started to put a halt to mass emigration, the number of requests is still low, say Israeli sources.

An Israeli government source has said about the "tourism" requests: "It could be a sign of optimism." But although the requests for such "tourism" visas are up, the tourists have yet to show up.

The source was unable to specify who was making the "tourism" requests, but said that many may be coming from refugees who have been denied emigration visas, and are trying to go "the tourism route."

"A two-week visit between relatives who haven't seen each other for 10 years is better than no contact at all," said the source.

But a Soviet Jewish source involved in Russian Jewish culture here, said that the rise in "tourism" applications could be indicative of an entirely different, and new development.

"Now that it appears that it might become possible to get out, some people may be thinking that it would be a good idea to see whether it makes sense to come here," the source said.

"Of course," added the source, "it's possible that somebody smart in the KGB is thinking that it wouldn't

be a bad idea to let the Jews see what life is like here.

"To think that, they have to be very self-confident. After all, somebody walking into a supermarket here will see what the difference is between life there and here," said the source.

Another source said that "people who think they can go back and forth relatively freely are probably less likely to feel desperate to get out."

"Maybe the Kremlin figured that it's a good idea to send some people to see what it's really like here, that it's not a paradise and that it's also a place where there's real flesh and blood. You must remember, problems like housing and work — which we know well — they also know," said that Soviet Jewish source.

While it's too early to decipher the precise intentions of Kremlin policy, most observers admit that the evidence — including the 50 per cent increase of Vienna arrivals in February over January — indicates, change in the Kremlin's policy.

Among Israeli government officials, at least, there is the expectation that the numbers in March will again show a significant increase in allowed exits, even if the numbers, compared to the heyday of emigration in the '70s, still remain low. Government sources refrained from guessing at numbers, saying that specifying numbers could "play into the hands of the Kremlin."

NABLUS

(Continued from Page One)

The incident occurred as scores of soldiers patrolled streets and stood on rooftops as the city observed a day of mourning in memory of al-Masri, who was shot a year ago yesterday on the steps of the municipality building. Stores were shuttered, black flags were flown and pictures of al-Masri posted on buildings and cars.

Security forces cordoned off the centre of the city, and allowed only a small procession of some 200 relatives and municipal workers to march down the deserted streets from the town hall to al-Masri's tomb at the Haj Maz'uz al-Masri mosque. Among those paying respects were the late mayor's elder

brother and deputy speaker of the Jordanian parliament, Hikmat al-Masri, acting mayor Hafez Touqan and foreign consuls. The tomb was decked with wreaths, including one inscribed, "Yasser Arafat, General Commander of the Forces of the Palestinian Revolution."

Al-Masri's black-clad widow, Ragha, led a group of woman marchers to the tomb, where she charged Israel was a "fascist state" for preventing townspeople from participating freely in the procession. A military spokesman said participation had been limited to keep out agitators and prevent a recurrence of the massive nationalist demonstration at al-Masri's funeral last year.

Pretext for inaction

Harry J. Lipkin

PRIME MINISTER Yitzhak Shamir may think it is a great achievement to have told the U.S. administration that the Americans must stop granting Soviet Jews the status of political refugees. I think it is a disgrace. It is bad enough that we are involved in a war of the Jews on this issue. But to ask gentiles to intervene and finally settle a dispute between two groups of Jews should be beneath the dignity of the leader of a Jewish state.

At a recent meeting, I heard Avraham Harman, president of the Israel Public Council for Soviet Jewry, criticized for a statement he had made on the drop-out phenomenon. Harman wants all Soviet Jews to come here. He is against drop-outs. But if a Soviet Jew does not want to come here, he would rather see him in New York than Moscow. His critic disagreed; he would rather see him in Moscow.

We are told that Soviet Jews should not be allowed to "use the name and help of the state of Israel" in order to go to America. What is the purpose of a Jewish state if a Jew in danger anywhere cannot use the name and help of Israel to get out of danger?

Prime Minister Shamir's statements may get him votes in the next Israeli elections and in his own party's internal power struggles from all the Israelis who would rather see Soviet Jews rot in Moscow than be safe in New York. But their impact in America can only be negative. They will split the Jewish community, weaken American support for Israel and will not change American policy toward Soviet immigration to the U.S.

Many Americans, Jews and non-Jews, may well ask why America

should give financial aid to help a group of self-satisfied Jews in Israel maintain fancy pensions and an artificially high standard of living, when these Israelis are not ready to help Jews in need in the Soviet Union. Better to use the money to help Soviet Jews come to America rather than to help Israel.

THERE ARE also many American citizens who have relatives in the Soviet Union who want their families to join them. These include Latvians, Lithuanians, Ukrainians and Armenians as well as Jews. They know that the only legal way for anyone to get a permit to leave the Soviet Union is by applying to leave for Israel. The Soviet authorities use this fiction themselves when they give permits for Israel to non-Jews who they know have no intention of coming here.

These American citizens will oppose any attempt to narrow the definition of political refugees. They vote in the American elections; Israelis don't. There is no way that any American politician will take action to change the status quo just to please Israel when it will alienate a group of American voters.

The law allowing political refugees to enter the U.S. outside of normal immigration quotas was enacted after the Holocaust. There was no such law during the dark days when European Jews fled from Hitler, they were turned back by the U.S. authorities. The Jews who fought for this new law will fight to preserve it without any changes in

order to save Jews from a future holocaust.

They are aware that anti-Semitism is not dead in the U.S. and worry that salami tactics might be used to water down this law by narrowing the definition of political refugee to the point where the law becomes unable to save Jews in danger. They will oppose any attempt to narrow the definition of political refugee.

It is also hard to see how any American Jew who has decided to live in America and not come on aliya himself can tell a Soviet Jew that he must go to Israel. If we want to give any message to American Jews, it is better to tell them that we want them to come here and not that they should stay in America and use their influence on the American government to force other Jews to go to Israel.

And if we want Soviet Jews to come here and stop the drop-outs, we have to let them know that they are wanted and needed. Unfortunately this is not true. The average Israeli does not want them. They will only compete for the small number of jobs and limited available housing which we need for our own people.

But since no Israeli is ready to admit this openly, he eagerly seizes on the drop-outs as a reason for doing nothing to help Soviet Jewry while blaming the Americans for everything. And he will applaud Prime Minister Shamir for publicly blaming the Americans, thus enabling him to forget about Soviet Jewry and get back to his main occupation of enjoying his inflated standard of living.

The writer is the chairman of the *Secular Committee of the Israel Public Council for Soviet Jewry*.

Ignorant prejudices

Zev Katz

IN HIS ARTICLE "A secular Judaism?" (February 17, 1987), Elhanan Blumenthal brings several weighty arguments against the movement for Secular Humanistic Judaism in Israel. The article is largely based on total misconception of what Secular Humanistic Judaism is about. Rather than offering an effective critique of the secular humanistic interpretation of Judaism, the article provides yet more evidence attesting to the inherent incapacity of many religious people to understand secular Jews in general and their attitude towards Judaism in particular.

One of these prejudices regarding secular Jews is that since they are not religious, they must inevitably be "Tora-less." They must be "motivated by animosity towards historic Judaism" and necessarily "reject biblical Judaism."

Mr. Blumenthal is so thoroughly imbued with this notion that he found these things to be the "sole common denominator" of the "diverse and incoherent views expressed by speakers" at the symposium he attended.

However, it is precisely in order to counter such attitudes among secular Jews that the Israel Association for Secular Humanistic Judaism was established. Our movement is totally opposed to a "Tora-less" Jewish secularism; we are for a "Tora-inspired" Jewish way of life for secular Jews. Far from rejecting "biblical Judaism," we advocate that secular Jews should respect and study the sources of historic Judaism: Bible, Mishna, Talmud, Midrash, kabbala, hassidic writings — everything that the genius of our ancestors has created.

We are for the Shabbat, for Jewish holidays, for observing Jewish traditions such as bar mitzva (and, of course, the parallel bat mitzva), and so on. Moreover, we reject the very notion that we are Jews who "do not observe the mitzvot." We regard ourselves as mitzvot-observing Jews — since we observe what we believe to be the truly important mitzvot of Judaism — those between man and his fellow man and those between man and his people (homeland, society).

Blumenthal accuses us of undertaking something which is "completely novel in our history." We plead guilty.

But we certainly do not accept his argument that this is "a complete departure from our tradition." To be sure, the opposite is the case. Revolutionary re-interpretations are the quintessence of the Jewish tradition. Our effort to present a Judaism without a supernatural being, without a transcendental, extra-terrestrial, divine source is as revolutionary today as the idea of the One and Invisible God was in those times of universal polytheism and idolatry.

To us, Judaism should not, and need not, be synonymous with the

notion of "Jewish religion." Judaism for us is the totality of the Jewish civilization at all times in all its manifestations — religious and non-religious alike.

The Jewish religious tradition is for us a source of inspiration and a major component of our national identity — not a source of authority for archaic rituals, irrational taboos or commandments. It is indeed difficult for a religious person to conceive that to a secular Jew the Tora can be "holy" — even though he doesn't accept its divine origin. In our eyes, the fact that the Bible was not dictated by a transcendental being, but is a creation of human beings, of our great ancestors, does not diminish its value — it enhances it. The Tora is "holy" to us not in a wholesale, blind way. It is "holy" in as much as it is a treasury of great and positive moral, philosophical, national and literary values.

We are "Tora-bound" out of our own free choice; we accept as "binding" those parts which, in our judgment, are consonant with these values and we reject those parts which are contrary to them. (In my opinion the "religious" also accept the Tora selectively, only not on their own judgment, but on that of recognized rabbinical authorities — a process otherwise known as Halacha. Nobody accepts the Tora in tota, not even the Jews from Ethiopia.)

The same applies to our attitude to the Shabbat, to Jewish holidays and the Jewish traditional way of life. We do not accept the value of taboos, rituals, prayers, rabbinical injunctions, and customs which clash with our modern, critical-scientific way of thinking or with our own Jewish, Zionist and humanistic principles.

We are for the Shabbat, but not for the kind that locks us up in our homes, a day of endless prohibitions and limitations. We are for Shabbat, for Jewish holidays, for Jewish ceremonies reshaped in the image of our age, which will suit our concerns and concepts as Israelis, Jews and contemporary human beings.

BLUMENTHAL ALSO finds fault with SHJ because, "none of them can lay claim to being an erudite scholar of historic Judaism."

After what must have been a thorough study of the works of Justice Haim Cohn, Prof. Yehuda Bauer, Prof. Paul Mendes-Flohr, Prof. Yirmiyahu Yovel, he arrives at the firm conclusion that none of them can be considered real Jewish scholars.

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B'NAI B'RITH WOMEN "We Know You Care!"

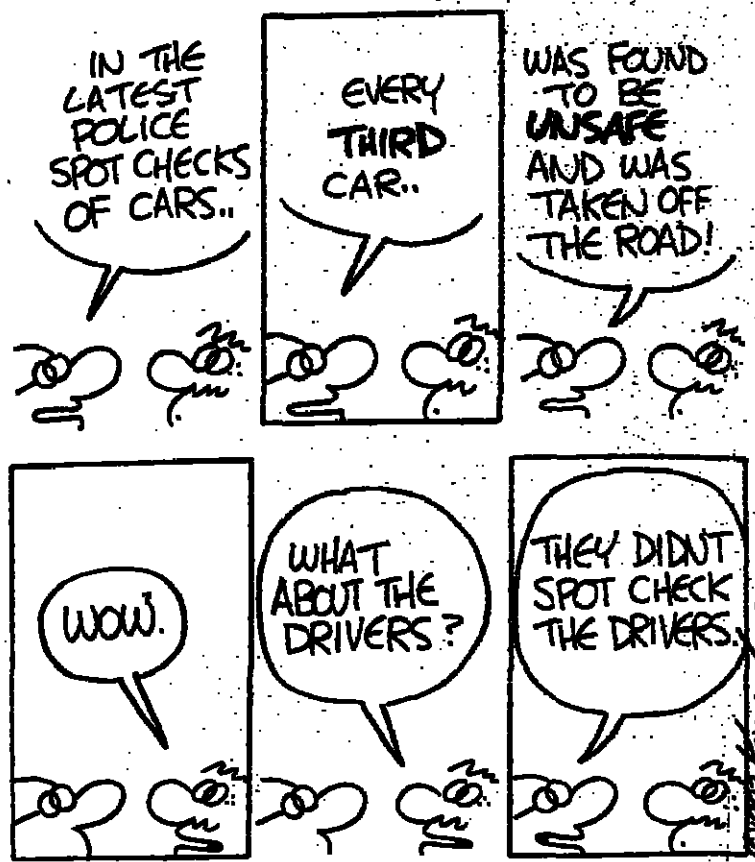
The Israel Board of the B'nai B'rith Women Children's Home and Group House in Jerusalem and Israeli friends of B'nai B'rith Women of the United States and Canada extend warm greetings to the B'nai B'rith Women Mission to Israel March 3-16

and take special pride in the groundbreaking ceremony for a new cottage of the B'nai B'rith Women Children's Home Thursday, March 5 at 2 p.m. Zilberg Street, Bayit Vegan, Jerusalem

B'nai B'rith Women — 120,000 members in North America — striving to unite Jewish women as a force for social advancement through education, service and action; working for the State of Israel, women everywhere, Jews throughout the world, children and Jewish youth and troubled Israeli youth.

For further information: Zlona Sasson, Director of Public Relations, B'nai B'rith Women Children's Home, 02-422258.

Dry Bones



READERS' LETTERS

JEWISH COLONIAL TRUST SHARES

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — In the recent polemic surrounding Bank Leumi LeIsrael and the Otzar Hityashvut Hayehudim (Jewish Colonial Trust), one aspect has been entirely overlooked: the rights and the interests of the few, still-living private shareholders of the JCT.

Through the columns of The Jerusalem Post of November 1, 1953, I notified the still-living JCT shareholders of the JCT's intention to exchange shares for BLL shares on very unfavourable terms.

Although I received numerous letters promising support, it was obvious to me that formally nothing could be done. The overwhelming majority of the shareholders had died without leaving heirs and many of the shares were lost or given as donations to the Jewish National Fund.

The JCT thus had its way and the

shares of the company were converted.

I have not the slightest doubt that everything was done in strict conformity with company law. The question to be asked, however, is whether the moral side of the whole transaction has ever been taken into consideration by the chairman or his board. They voted themselves into office and settled upon themselves high salaries — for meeting once a year and for confirming their own activity reports.

And what happened to the unfortunate and still-living shareholders? Not a single agora has been paid to them, although they are the formal owners of one of the world's great banks. The shares, received in exchange, are not even traded at the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange and are therefore considered to be valueless.

OSCAR A. MARENZI
Jerusalem.

RIGHTEOUS GENTILES

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — I noticed with great satisfaction the attention paid to Yehuda Vasheim and especially to its Department for the Righteous among the Nations (Magazine, January 1986).

Forty-two years after the end of World War II, many Jews here and abroad still don't know exactly what a Righteous Gentile is, nor how to get such a person honoured. In France, for instance, where more than 5,000 people risked their lives to save Jews, only 310 have been honoured.

With a staff of three (while twice this number is needed), the director of the department does his best and spares no effort. But the processing of a request for recognition generally takes two years, while the people

concerned are in their seventies or eighties and the rescued not much younger.

Since last year, together with a former Resistance colleague, we have organized a group of French-speaking volunteers to help the department in various ways and especially by providing *kibud kat* (light refreshments) at the end of the tree-planting ceremonies, as no budget at all has been allocated for that purpose and, I was told, Yehuda Vasheim cannot afford such an expense.

The Righteous Gentiles' action is the only positive remembrance of the Shoah that the Jewish people can keep and transmit. It is our duty to honour these Gentiles, as far as possible, whilst they are still alive.

DENISE SIEKERSKI
Jerusalem.

CONVERTS IN NAZI GERMANY

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — I am writing a doctoral thesis on church members of Jewish origin in Nazi Germany. Since personal accounts would be most helpful for

my project, I would like to ask for possible assistance from your readers. I can be reached at: 03-241759, 7-11 p.m.
Tel Aviv.
A.S. VULETIC

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — Our enemies plan an international parody so that "world opinion" would pronounce a verdict on Israel on the pattern of hostile United Nations precedents.

It is naive to presume that we could prevent such a verdict, even if

our terms of reference for such a conference are accepted.

Those amongst us promoting such a conference remind me of the German saying: "Only the silliest choose their own slaughterer."

FRITZ OPPENHEIMER
Ramat Gan.

BIBLICAL FARM

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — Biblical farm on top of destroyed Arab village, rebuilt by Arab labour — according to illustrations and captions accompanying your article, "Blooming miracle" in the Magazine of February 13.

It needs a lot of *hutzpa* on the part of the Jewish National Fund to be proud of this Sataf park!

BERTIE VAN GELDER
Tel Aviv.

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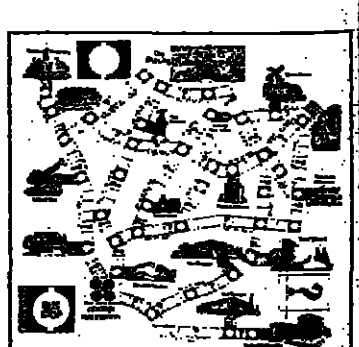
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